

THE  
**Nonconformist.**

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 538.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, 1856.

PRICE {STAMPED ... 5d.  
UNSTAMPED 4d.

**ROYAL PANOPTICON.**—The Comical Histories of WHITTINGTON and PUSS IN BOOTS, narrated by Mr. LEICESTER BUCKINGHAM, and Illustrated by Splendid Dioramic Views—A RAMBLE THROUGH VENICE—LIFE IN POMPEII—NATURAL MAGIC: Illustrated and Explained by Mr. J. D. MALCOLM—CHEMISTRY, by Mr. G. F. ANSELL—JOHN CHINAMAN at HOME—Performance on the Grand Organ, by Mr. E. T. CHIFF, &c., &c. Each Exhibition to conclude with the LUMINOUS FOUNTAIN. Doors open—Morning, Twelve to Five; Evening, Seven to Ten. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, half-price.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.**—The SEVENTH COURSE OF MONDAY EVENING LECTURES to the Industrial Classes has commenced.—Lecture on the POISON STRYCHNINE, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., daily at Four and Nine. The POISON, and the TESTS used for its DETECTION, exhibited in the Oxy-hydrogen Microscope. The Second Part of the VOYAGES OF SINDBAD the SAILOR, with New and Beautiful DISSOLVING PICTURES, designed and painted by H. G. HINE, Esq., and Description, with Songs, by LEWIS HORN, Esq. Brilliant Popular Lectures on FLAME, FIRE, and COMBUSTION, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq.; and on the GREAT STEAM ELECTRICAL MACHINE, by Mr. WILDE. 3,000 Models and Works of Art on view. Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools half-price.

**ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVER-STOCK-HILL.**

PATRON—The QUEEN.

For Children of both Sexes, of all Denominations, and from every part of the Kingdom.

The NEXT ELECTION will take place in APRIL, all APPLICANTS for which must be in the hands of the Secretary by the 1st of March. Forms to fill up, and Lists of the Governors, may be obtained at the Office.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

32, Ludgate-hill, London.

DONATIONS and NEW ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS are earnestly solicited, to meet the increased expenses of the present period.

**THE REV. C. H. SPURGEON** will (D.V.) preach at FINSHURY CHAPEL, MOORFIELDS, on FRIDAY, Feb. 23, on behalf of the Baptist Metropolitan Chapel Building Society. Service to commence at Twelve o'clock.

**REV. J. H. HINTON'S COURSE** of LECTURES on GOD'S GOVERNMENT of MAN, at DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET on SUNDAY EVENINGS, at Half-past Six. Sixth Lecture, Feb. 24. Subject—"Its Tendency; or, the Guide to Human Happiness."

**ORDINATION SERVICES.**

QUEEN-STREET CHAPEL, WOOLWICH.

The PUBLIC RECOGNITION of the Rev. CHARLES HAWSON as Pastor of the Baptist Church assembling in the above Place of Worship, will be held on TUESDAY, Feb. 26, 1856.

In the Afternoon, the Rev. W. B. BOWES, of Blandford-street, will deliver the Introductory Discourse, and propose the usual Questions. The Rev. GREGORY HAWSON, of Staines, will offer the Ordination Prayer. The Rev. JOSEPH ANGUS, D.D., M.R.A.S., of Stepney College, will give the Charge to the Pastor. In the Evening, the Rev. W. LANDELS, of Regent's-park Chapel, will Preach to the Church and Congregation. Other Ministers will take part in the Services.

Service to commence in the Afternoon at Two, and in the Evening at Seven o'clock.

**TO BREAD and BISCUIT BAKERS.**—WANTED, a respectable YOUNG MAN, as SECOND HAND in the above trade.

Applications, with references, to be addressed to J. Wiles, Baker and Corn Dealer, St. Alban's, Herts.

**WANTED IMMEDIATELY,** an experienced HAND for the HOSIERY and GLOVE DEPARTMENT. All applications must state what amount of experience, salary required, and to whom reference may be made.

Apply to Thomas Andrew, Shrewsbury.

**TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.**—WANTED, in a Dissenter's family, in a market town, about forty miles from London, a YOUNG MAN as SECOND HAND in a GENERAL TRADE.

Applications, stating age, salary, and two last situations, to be made to A. B., Mr. Wm. Butler's, Witham, Essex.

**TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.**—WANTED, a good COUNTER HAND. None need apply whose character will not bear investigation.

Address, George Pollard, Chipping Ongar, Essex.

**TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.**—WANTED, TWO YOUNG MEN, good WINDOW DRESSERS, one to take the Hosiery and Haberdashery. None but members of a Christian Church need apply.

Apply to J. Kerkham, Lynn, Norfolk, stating age, salary, and the last two situations.

**TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.**—WANTED IMMEDIATELY, an active, industrious YOUNG MAN, who thoroughly understands his business, and whose character will bear the strictest investigation.

Apply, stating age, salary, and references, to R. and G. K. Humphrey, Hay-lane, and High-street, Coventry.

**TO GROCERS and DRAPERS.**—WANTED IMMEDIATELY, an active and industrious YOUNG MAN, thoroughly acquainted with both branches of the above business. A member of a Christian Church preferred.

Apply, stating age, salary, references, &c., to Messrs. Peck and Son, Grocers and Drapers, Lavenham, Suffolk.

**WANTED, in the GROCERY and PROVISION TRADE,** a JUNIOR ASSISTANT or IM-PROVER. A member of a Christian Church preferred.

Address, A. C., 7, Sussex-street, Cambridge.

**TO GROCERS and TEA DEALERS.**—WANTED, by a respectable YOUNG MAN, aged twenty-two, a SITUATION in the above. Country preferred.

Address, G. L., Burnet's Library, Bollingbrook-row, Walworth-road, London.

**WANTED, by a Chemist and Druggist** of Dissenting principles, residing in a large market-town, a respectable and well-disposed YOUTH as an APPRENTICE. He would enjoy the comforts of home, and have every opportunity of becoming well acquainted with his business. One who has served part of his time would be preferred.

Address, J. L. C., Post-office, Colchester.

**TO the MEDICAL PROFESSION.**—A GENTLEMAN who has a well-educated SON, is desirous of PLACING him with a SURGEON of good general practice, where his morals and domestic comfort would meet with every attention. A Dissenter's family preferred.

Address, Mr. W. Copland, Writtle, near Chelmsford, Essex.

**A COMFORTABLE HOME** is offered to a respectable YOUNG PERSON who is a good NEEDLE-WOMAN. Satisfactory references required. A Dissenter preferred.

Apply to A. B., 23, Grafton-street East, Gower-street.

**WANTED, in a small Private Family,** a SERVANT of ALL WORK, who understands Plain Working, and can take the Washing. Wages 10l. per annum. A member of a Christian Church preferred. No Irish need apply.

Address, by letter, post paid, H. M., Albert House, Bath's-pond-road.

**WANTED, a SECOND MASTER** to the STEPNEY MEETING DAY SCHOOLS. One practically acquainted with the Monitorial System will be preferred. Application by letter, with Testimonials, to be made before March 1, to the Rev. John Kennedy, M.A., 4, Stepney-green.

**TO SCHOOLMASTERS.**—WANTED, a MASTER for the Congregational School, held in the School-room of the New Independent Chapel (Rev. J. Viney's), Bethnal-green-road.

Apply, by letter, to J. G. M., 21, Spital-square, London.

**MASTER and MISTRESS WANTED** for a BRITISH DAY SCHOOL, in London. The Mistress will be required to superintend a Mixed School for Girls and Infants. A married couple would be preferred.

Apply, by letter, to Mr. J. Snelgar, 2, Navarino-terrace, Dalston-rise.

**IN an ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES,** a COMFORTABLE HOME is offered to a YOUNG LADY who is desirous of further improvement. Terms moderate, as she would be required to devote a portion of her time to teaching the junior pupils. A knowledge of Music indispensable.

Address, H. B., Post-office, Tewkesbury.

**EDUCATION.**—A few unexpected VACANCIES occur in a FIRST CLASS LADIES' ESTABLISHMENT, which the principal is willing to fill upon reduced and inclusive terms.

Address, Zeta, Berlin Wool Repository, New-street, Huddersfield.

**SALARY NOT the PRIMARY OBJECT.**—

A LADY by birth, who has moved in good society, may accept an ENGAGEMENT in a family of decidedly religious principles, where she would be received as a friend. She undertakes the routine of an English education, with intellectual culture, and attention to the formation of character. French, and the rudiments of German, Music, and Drawing.

References of high respectability can be given as to her endeavour conscientiously to fill any position of confidence.

Address, X. Y. Z., Kay's Library, Bridge-place, Harrow-road, near Maida-hill, London.

**EDUCATION at CHRISTCHURCH.**—The

Rev. JOSEPH FLETCHER, of Christchurch, assisted by the Rev. J. B. Fletcher, M.A., of University College, London, receives into his establishment a limited number of Pupils, from the age of Twelve to Eighteen, thereby affording a thoroughly Home Education, free from the evil influences of large schools, and with complete instruction in the usual branches of knowledge—Classical, Mathematical, Commercial, and the Modern Languages, according to the capacity and requirements of the Pupils, and, where necessary, with a particular view to Matriculation at the Universities. Terms, under the age of Fifteen, Eighty Guineas; above Fifteen, One Hundred Guineas. No extras.

For further information apply as above.

INTEREST TWELVE-AND-A-HALF PER CENT.

**INDEPENDENT BUILDING SOCIETY,** No. 4. Held at WARDOUR CHAPEL SCHOOL, CHAPEL-STREET, WARDOUR-STREET, SOHO.

Shares, 50l. Subscription, 5s.; entrance, 1s. Fixed at ten years' duration—no Ballot rule. Extraordinary success attended the West London Dissenters' and Independent Building Societies, which, in two years, issued upwards of 6,200 shares, and advanced upon mortgage upwards of 160,000l., and are now paying splendid bonuses upon the Shares. ONE Society has already terminated paying TWELVE-AND-A-HALF per cent. interest. Persons in the Country can take shares, or deposit money, at interest at six per cent., dividends remitted free of Income tax, and are placed in the same position as London members. 1,000l. will be sold at the first meeting.

Prospectuses, &c., of Mr. Holcombe, Secretary, 3, Oldham-place, Bagnidge-Wells-road, near Exmouth-street.

**PERPETUAL INVESTMENT, LAND, and BUILDING SOCIETY.**

(Established under 6 and 7 William IV., c. xxxii.)

23, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

PROGRESS OF THE SOCIETY.

Shares issued, 11,755. Amount advanced on Mortgage, 120,540l. 1s. 9d. Sums of Money can be invested with this Society either upon Shares or on Deposit.

Shares are issued from 10l. to 100l., payable either in one sum, or by periodical instalments.

The interest is paid half-yearly, on the 30th of April and 30th of October.

Moneys can be withdrawn, with 5 per cent. interest, at any time.

The profits are divided yearly. At the last division the bonus declared was, with the interest, equal to 6½ per cent. upon Subscribing Shares.

Deposits in the Savings' Bank Department can be made of any amount, on Wednesday evenings, from six to eight o'clock. Interest 4 per cent.

Money advanced on Houses and Lands, repayable by monthly or quarterly instalments.

Investments can be made, and information obtained, at the Office of the Society, daily, between the hours of Nine and Five, and on Wednesdays from Nine to Eight.

A Prospectus and copy of the last Annual Report will be sent by post upon application.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

**KENT MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETIES.**

QUEEN-STREET OFFICE, NEW CANNON-STREET, LONDON.

The UNITED ANNUAL INCOME exceeds 27,000l.; and ALL PROFITS belong to the Assured.

LIFE.

The NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS will include parties assuring before 24th March next.

The NEW BUSINESS of the last Eight Months exceeds 5,000l. in Annual Premiums.

FIRE.

The GUARANTEE FUND is being increased to HALF-A-MILLION. The ANNUAL INCOME, since last Annual Meeting, has increased beyond 5,000l.

GEORGE CUMMING, Manager.

N.B.—Agents are still wanted for some vacant localities.

**ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY.**

CAPITAL, 100,000l., in 10,000 SHARES of 10l. each, with power to increase to One Million.

Offices—{25, CANNON-STREET, LONDON.  
11, DUCIE-PLACE, MANCHESTER.

DIRECTORS.

EDWARD MIALI, Esq., M.P., Sydenham-park, Chairman.

Colonel LOTHIAN S. DICKSON, 10, Stanhope-terrace, Hyde-park, Deputy Chairman.

Adolphus Baker, Esq. Henry Francis Home, Esq.  
Thomas Houghton Burrell, Esq. James Tolesman, Esq.  
J. Bishop Culpeper, Esq. William Stoughton Vardy, Esq.

CONSULTING ACTUARY—JENKIN JONES, Esq., F.S.A.

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

GEO. ROBERT ROWE, Esq., M.D., F.S.A., Cavendish-square.

EDWARD HEAD, Esq., M.B., 1, Titchfield-terrace, Regent's-park.

SECRETARY—HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Esq.

MANCHESTER LOCAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

William Jenkinson, Esq. James Watts, Esq.  
William Martin, Esq. John Wood, Esq.  
Thomas Roberts, Esq. William Woodward, Esq.  
Robert Ramsey, Esq.

SOLICITOR—FRANCIS HAMPSON, Esq., 40, Brown-street.

PHYSICIAN—HENRY BROWN, Esq., M.D., 94, Bloomsbury, and Dale-street.

LOCAL SECRETARY—JOHN KINGSLEY, Esq., Office, 11, Ducie-place.

The advantages offered by this Company are based on an investigation of its Rates of Premium, which are based upon the latest and most approved corrected Tables, and upon the terms of its Loan business. It offers to its members a large subscribed Capital, combined with the security of a Mutual Assurance Office—Eighty per cent. of the being divided amongst the Policy-holders.

Policies are Indisputable. No charge is made for Policy Stamp.

One-third of the Premiums on Assurances remain unpaid, and continue as a claim.

Policies not forfeited if the Premiums are not paid.

Loans are granted to Policy-holders.

For the convenience of the Working Members, Loans are granted as low as 20l.; at the same rates as larger Amounts.

Premiums may be paid Quarterly, Half-yearly, or Annually. Any other Particulars, or Rates of Premiums required for any contingency, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, or at the Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street; or of the Secretary.

HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.



## INTENDING LIFE ASSURERS AND OTHERS

Are respectfully invited to compare the Principles, Rates, and whole Provisions of the

## SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

WITH THOSE OF ANY OTHER EXISTING COMPANY.

The whole PROFITS are divisible among the assured, who are, at the same time, specially exempt from personal liability. It thus possesses an obvious advantage over any Proprietary Company.

As compared with other Mutual Offices, it claims superiority in the following particulars:—

1. PREMIUMS AT EARLY AND MIDDLE AGES ABOUT A FOURTH LOWER. (See below.)
2. A MORE ACCURATE ADJUSTMENT OF THE RATES OF PREMIUM TO THE SEVERAL AGES.
3. A PRINCIPLE IN THE DIVISION OF THE SURPLUS MORE SAFE, EQUITABLE, AND FAVOURABLE TO GOOD LIVES.
4. EXEMPTION FROM ENTRY MONEY, AND CHARGE FOR POLICY STAMPS.

Resolutions were adopted at the General Meeting in 1849, the effect of which is, to render

POLICIES INDISPUTABLE EXCEPT ON ACCOUNT OF FRAUD.

\* I. ANNUAL PREMIUMS FOR 100L. WITH WHOLE PROFITS.

Age 20.	25	30	35	40	45	50	55
£1 15 8	1 18 0	2 1 6	2 6 10	2 14 9	3 5 9	4 1 7	5 1 11

II. ANNUAL PREMIUMS FOR 100L., WITH WHOLE PROFITS, PAYABLE FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS ONLY.

Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50
2 9 10	2 12 6	2 15 6	3 0 3	3 7 5	3 17 6	4 12 1

## INVESTMENT AND FAMILY PROVISION.

At present, when interest is so low, attention is invited to the mode of LIFE ASSURANCE BY SINGLE PAYMENTS, and to the peculiarly advantageous terms on which it can be effected in the

## SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

By this mode a person may assure a Policy for 1,000L.

If aged 30, for a Single Payment of . . .	£382 0 0
" 40, . . . . .	421 8 4
" 50, . . . . .	530 12 6

At his death, his family will receive the 1,000L., with additions from the profits, on the very favourable principle of this Society. While he lives, he has it in his power to borrow a sum, nearly equal to his payment, on the security of the policy, and increasing yearly with its value, without any expense, and at a moderate rate of interest.

Assurances may be effected in this way, varying in amount from 50L. to 5,000L.

For those who have still before them the duty of securing to their families a competent provision in case of their premature death, the ordinary mode of Life Assurance by Annual Premiums, payable during life, or for a limited number of years, is undoubtedly most suitable; but to those who have already made such provision, the systems now brought under notice are recommended—the former, as combining a favourable investment for spare capital, with the benefit of Life Assurance, and this on the most economical terms; and the latter as a means of securing a provision for the member himself in his declining years.

Since the institution of the Society in 1837, upwards of 7,500 Policies have been issued, assuring upwards of Three Millions and a Quarter—a result the more gratifying to the members, as no indiscriminate commission has ever been paid for it.

Forms of Proposal, Prospectus, Copies of the Annual Reports, and every information will be forwarded, free, on application at the Head Office in Edinburgh; or at

THE OFFICE IN LONDON, 13, MOORGATE-STREET.

GEORGE GRANT, Agent and Secretary for London.

\* Policies are now issued free of Stamp-duty; and attention is invited to the circumstance that Premiums payable for Life Assurance are now allowed as a deduction from Income in the Returns for Income-tax. Residents in any part of the Country may readily assure without Fines for Non-appearance, or any extra charge whatever.

## A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF 6L PER WEEK, IN CASE OF INJURY BY ACCIDENT OF ANY DESCRIPTION, OR THE SUM OF 1,000L. IN CASE OF DEATH.

may be secured by an Annual Payment of 2L. for a Policy in the RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

A weekly Allowance of Fifteen Shillings for Injury, or 100L. in case of Death secured by a payment of Ten Shillings.

## NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

Forms of Proposal, Prospectus, &c., may be had of the Agents—of the Clerks at all the principal Railway Stations—and at the Head Office, London—where also

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS ALONE may be insured against by the Journey or by the Year, as heretofore.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Railway Passengers' Insurance Company, Empowered by a Special Act of Parliament. Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Books of the Society close on 1st March, and Proposals lodged at the Head Office, or at any of the Agencies, on or before that date, will secure the advantage of the present year's entry, and of One Year's Additional Bonus over later Proposals.

## MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE.

THE WHOLE PROFITS DIVIDED AMONGST THE ASSURED.

## THE SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Instituted 1831. Incorporated by Special Act of Parliament.

The Fund accumulated from the Contributions of Members exceeds NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS.

The Annual Revenue exceeds ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND POUNDS.

The Amount of existing Assurances exceeds FOUR MILLIONS and a QUARTER STERLING.

The Amount paid to the Representatives of deceased Members is upwards of SIX HUNDRED and FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS, of which SEVENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND POUNDS are Bonus additions.

THE NEXT DIVISION OF PROFITS TAKES PLACE at the 1st of MARCH, 1856, and Policies effected before that date receive one year's additional Bonus over those effected after that date.

ROBERT CHRISTIE, Manager. WILLIAM FINLAY, Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE: 26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

LONDON OFFICE: 12, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, CORNER OF CORNHILL. W. H. SMALRIDGE, Interim Agent.

## MONEY—ESTABLISHED, 1849.

LOANS, from 5L to 50L, on the Personal Security of the Borrower, to be repaid by small Weekly Monthly, or Quarterly Installments, as may suit the convenience of the Borrower. A form of application and particulars sent to any part, on receipt of four postage stamps, and a stamped directed envelope. Office (private), 16, Fenton-street, Fenton-villa, London. T. SHORT, Secretary.

Sisal CIGARS! SISAL CIGARS!! at GOODRICH'S CIGAR, TOBACCO, and SNUFF STORES (Established 1780), 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho square. Box, containing Fourteen fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 2d.; post free. Tobacco, and Stamps. None are genuine unless signed, "G. R. Goodrich."

## PROVISION FOR ADVANCED AGE.

To clergymen, or other professional men, and to all whose income is dependent on the continuance of health, the directors recommend attention to the Scale of DEFERRED ANNUITIES, which are calculated on very advantageous terms. The following are examples of the

ANNUAL PREMIUM for ANNUITY of 50L., commencing at the following ages:—

Age at Entry.	50	55	60	65
20	£9 5 0	£5 16 8	£3 10 0	£1 10 11
25	12 17 1	7 18 4	4 14 3	2 12 11
30	18 12 1	11 1 3	6 8 9	3 11 3
35	28 13 9	16 3 1	9 0 6	4 18 4

Thus an Annuity of 50L. may be secured for a person now aged 25, to commence on his attaining age 60, and payable half-yearly during life, for an Annual Premium of 4L. 14s. 2d.

For those who have still before them the duty of securing to their families a competent provision in case of their premature death, the ordinary mode of Life Assurance by Annual Premiums, payable during life, or for a limited number of years, is undoubtedly most suitable; but to those who have already made such provision, the systems now brought under notice are recommended—the former, as combining a favourable investment for spare capital, with the benefit of Life Assurance, and this on the most economical terms; and the latter as a means of securing a provision for the member himself in his declining years.

Since the institution of the Society in 1837, upwards of 7,500 Policies have been issued, assuring upwards of Three Millions and a Quarter—a result the more gratifying to the members, as no indiscriminate commission has ever been paid for it.

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GEORGE GRANT, Agent and Secretary for London.

\* Policies are now issued free of Stamp-duty; and attention is invited to the circumstance that Premiums payable for Life Assurance are now allowed as a deduction from Income in the Returns for Income-tax. Residents in any part of the Country may readily assure without Fines for Non-appearance, or any extra charge whatever.

MAPPINS' "SHILLING" RAZOR, sold everywhere, warranted good by the Makers, JOSEPH MAPPIN and BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 37, Moorgate-street, City, London.

MAPPINS' SUPERIOR TABLE-KNIVES, as made for the Crystal Palace, Sydenham; handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Sheffield manufacture. Buyers supplied at their London Warehouse, 37, Moorgate-street, City; and Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

AT MR. MECH'S ESTABLISHMENTS, 112, REGENT-STREET, and 4, LEADENHALL-STREET, LONDON, are exhibited the finest specimens of British Manufactures in Dressing Cases, Work Boxes, Writing Cases, Dressing Bags, and other articles of utility or luxury suitable for presentation. A separate department for Papier Maché Manufactures and Bagatelle Tables. Table Cutlery, Razors, Scissors, Penknives, Strops, Paste, &c. Shipping Orders executed for Merchants and Captains. An extensive assortment of Hair and other Toilet Brushes. The same prices charged at all the Establishments.

## 212° MILNERS' HOLDFAST and FIRE

RESISTING SAFES (non-conducting and vapour-insulating), with all the improvements, under their Quadruple Patents of 1840-51-54 and 1855, including their Gunpowder Proof Solid Lock and Door (without which no safe is secure). The strongest, best, and cheapest safes ever extant.

MILNERS' PHENIX (212°) SAFE WORKS, LIVERPOOL, the most complete and extensive in the world. Show-rooms, 6 and 8, Lord-street, Liverpool. London Depot, 47A, Moorgate-street, City. Circulars free by post.

TOLKIEN'S Twenty-five Guinea Royal Minuto-PIANOFORTES, 6½ octaves, acknowledged the best in England.—27 to 29, King William-street, London-bridge, City.

## HARMONIUMS at CHAPPELL'S.—The

HARMONIUM by ALEXANDRE is the only instrument of the kind that remains in tune; from the simplicity of its construction is but slightly affected by changes of weather, and is alike calculated for the Church, Chapel, School, or Drawing-room.

- No. 1. In Oak Case, One Stop, Five Octaves, Ten Guineas.
2. In Mahogany Case, One Stop, Twelve Guineas.
3. In Oak Case, Three Stops, Fifteen Guineas; Rosewood, Sixteen Guineas.
4. With Five Stops—Oak, Twenty-two Guineas; Rosewood, Twenty-three Guineas.
5. Eight Stops—Oak, Twenty-five Guineas; Rosewood, Twenty-six Guineas.
6. Twelve Stops, Oak or Rosewood, Thirty-five Guineas.
7. One Stop, and Percussion Action, in Oak, Sixteen Guineas.
8. Three Stops, and Percussion Action, in Rosewood, Twenty Guineas.
9. Eight Stops, Percussion Action, Oak or Rosewood, Thirty-two Guineas.
10. Twelve Stops, Percussion Action, in Oak, Forty Guineas.
11. Twelve Stops, Percussion Action, large size, in Rosewood, Forty-five Guineas.
12. The New Patent Model, Fifteen Stops, Percussion Action, Expression & Main, &c.; the most perfect Harmonium that can be made, in Handsome Oak or Rosewood Case, Fifty-five Guineas.

Full Descriptive Lists on application.

Chappell, 50, New Bond-street.

## USEFUL BOOKS INDISPENSABLE TO ALL.

15th Thousand, price 2s. 6d. cloth, by post free,

LIVE and LEARN: A Guide to all who wish to speak and write correctly.—"Live and Learn" is an excellent book. We look upon it as really indispensable. We advise our readers to imitate our example, procure the book, and sell it not at any price."—Educational Gazette.

## READ AND REFLECT.

Price 1s. cloth, free by post,

THE NEWSPAPER and GENERAL READER'S POCKET COMPANION: being a familiar Explanation of Classical and Foreign Words, Phrases, and Quotations, in the various Journals, Periodicals, and Publications of the day. By the Author of "Live and Learn." Fourth Thousand.

## NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN,

Price 6d.; by post, 7d.,

MISTAKES of DAILY OCCURRENCE in SPEAKING, WRITING, and PRONUNCIATION CORRECTED. Old and young, educated and uneducated, may consult this small work with advantage. Selling by thousands.

## HINTS FOR LEARNERS.

Price 1s., free by post,

THE RIGHT WAY of LEARNING, PRONOUNCING, SPEAKING, TRANSLATING, and WRITING FRENCH CORRECTLY: Pointing out the Difficulties which Puzzle the Beginner and the Scholar. Third Thousand, Revised and Enlarged.

London: John F. Shaw, 27, Southampton-row, and Peter-noster-row.

## THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK. Song. By

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### THE SABBATH QUESTION.

THE motion to be submitted to the House of Commons to-morrow evening by Sir Joshua Walmsley is of all others one which can least afford to be dealt with in a dogmatic temper. If there ever was a question upon which much might be said on both sides, and which demands a calm and dispassionate consideration, assuredly this is one. The difficulties which beset it are formidable—the consequences which may result from a decision of it either way are incalculable. The honourable member for Leicester has, of course, a perfect right to ask the representative branch of the Legislature to pronounce a distinct opinion on the subject—but we take leave to question whether his determination to do so will be found serviceable even to the object he professes to have in view, and whether, in all other respects, it will not be simply mischievous.

The form in which the motion is to be presented for discussion is somewhat specious. It runs as follows: "That in the opinion of this House, it would promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the working classes of this metropolis, if the collections of natural history and of art in the British Museum and the National Gallery were open to the public inspection after morning service on Sundays." We are not, perhaps, entitled to complain that a policy which will prove expansive beyond all power of measurement should be offered to public notice under such modest proportions. It is only in accordance with the method usually adopted for the initiation of large reforms. But it would be childish to blink the fact that the two institutions named in the motion are made to do duty for all similar institutions in the United Kingdom. Nor is this all. The terms of the resolution, it is true, steer quite clear of religion—and yet it is impossible to vote in affirmation of it, without thereby pronouncing a legislative judgment on one of the keenly controverted religious questions of the day. The proposition as it stands, is a truism. There cannot be a reasonable doubt that if the institutions alluded to are fitted to promote moral and intellectual improvement at all, they are equally fitted to do so on Sundays as on Fridays. The mere change of the day cannot change the character of the institutions. But, surely, the House of Commons is not invited to affirm a self-evident truth of this kind, apart from a definite practical purpose—and who can question that the purpose of the honourable mover is, to affirm the abstract propriety of employing the particular means of moral and intellectual improvement mentioned in his motion, and the perfect compatibility of those means with a due religious regard to the Lord's-day? In one word, the motion without naming religion is obviously intended to embody the opinion of the House on the Sabbath question in its religious bearings.

Now, we are very far from harbouring a suspicion that Sir Joshua Walmsley was conscious of anything disingenuous in the form of his motion, or that he meant to entrap the House of Commons into giving verdict on a much larger question than the terms of that motion imply. We have no doubt that he honestly intended to take the decision of the House on the question, whether it

is or is not consistent with a due regard to the Lord's-day, to throw open, on that day, such national institutions as are calculated to promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the people. Upon this question, we proceed to make a few observations.

Starting, then, from our own principles, we contend that it is not the business of the Legislature to give any deliverance whatever on the subject. What is or is not compatible with a due observance of the Lord's-day, as a religious institution, is a question for every man's conscience, not for legislative decision. "One man esteemeth one day above another—another man esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." Every man's personal benefit and personal responsibility is involved, and to every man must be allowed individual freedom of judgment. "To his own Master he standeth or falleth." To guard the sanctity of the Sabbath, then, as a religious institution, either by legal provisions, or by senatorial sanction, does not commend itself to us as lying within the legitimate province of legislators. How a man shall employ himself on that day—whether he shall attend Divine worship, or wander in the fields, whether he shall read his Bible or cast up his ledger, whether he shall gratify his spiritual aspirations, or indulge his physical propensities, whether, in a word, he shall pursue the course of a saint or a sinner, it is not for the law, but for himself to decide—and the interference of law as a substitute for conscience, or even as a supplement to it, is, in our judgment, an evil to be deprecated and resisted at all costs.

Now, it appears to us to be impossible to say either "Aye" or "No" to Sir Joshua Walmsley's motion, without stepping beyond the legitimate sphere of senatorial obligation. We are not prepared to say authoritatively to those who take a different view of the religious obligations of the Lord's-day to that entertained by ourselves, that they ought to be ruled by our interpretation of what the day requires. In our private sphere, we are quite willing to propound our convictions, to sustain them by argument, and to enforce them upon others by persuasion. But we are not prepared to invest our individual convictions, in any religious matter, with a national sanction, nor give to them the slightest semblance of authority beyond that which our personal influence may impart to them.

Suppose a motion to be submitted to the Legislature to this effect, that it would conduce to the improvement of the people that all churches and chapels should be open on Sundays, morning, afternoon, and evening, our principles teach us to regard the utterance of such an opinion, senatorially, as an impertinence and an unjustifiable assumption. The sentiment expressed may be in accordance with fact—but it is one which civil authority is not concerned to enounce. But just as improper would be its expression of opinion that to attend church on the Sunday morning, and to stroll through a picture gallery in the afternoon, is a method of spending Sunday which the Legislature may approve. The one dogma is not a whit more liberal than the other. It is equally assumptive—equally impertinent.

The general policy of the country undoubtedly is, and has been, the observance of one day in seven—Sunday—as a day of rest. It matters nothing that in authorising and enjoining such observance, the civil authority was originally moved by religious considerations. The common law of the Sabbath, like many other laws delivered to the Jewish nation, sanctioned by Christianity, and adopted by the various countries of Europe, commends itself to our reason and our sympathies, as well by the social benefits which it secures, as by the spiritual truths it is alleged to typify. We stand by it for much the same reasons as we stand by the law of marriage, which is also taken from the revealed Word of God. We give in our adhesion to the policy which guards its sanctity, because we are convinced that it is a policy full of tenderness to the helpless children of toil. The value of one day's cessation from labour in every week cannot, in our judgment, be over-rated. Independently altogether of religious

considerations, the enforced abstinence from work on Sundays, the general pause of laborious employment, the suspension of trading pursuits, and the declaration of the day as a *dies non* in respect of commercial engagements, constitute the Lord's-day one of the strongest bulwarks the working-men of this country possess against being virtually absorbed, body and soul, by the competition of capital on the one hand allied with the competition of want on the other. We look with the utmost jealousy upon any proposal the tendency of which is to undermine this rightful inheritance of the poor; and we believe that the great bulk of the working classes, if they could be prevailed upon to look upon the question in this light, would be equally anxious to secure this noble bulwark against all encroachment, however pleasing and insidious in its outward form.

The executive Government conforms, of course, as closely as may be, to the general policy recognised and sanctioned by the Legislature. The Government offices, dockyards, workshops, institutions, &c.—with a special exception or two, justified by special reasons—are closed on Sundays, and the servants of the Executive share with their countrymen in general the cessation of labour. But of these institutions, Sir Joshua Walmsley selects two, as worthy of being made exceptions to the general rule of conformity, on the ground that they promote moral and intellectual improvement. We see no sufficient inducement for making the proposed exception. The same sort of plea might avail to keep open every Government institution tending to increase the physical comfort of the people. And we hesitate to pronounce a legislative opinion intended to compel the Executive to take steps in relation to some of their servants, which will give a national sanction to the employment of servants in general on the day of rest, beyond what the necessities of society plainly require.

These are the general reasons which would have induced us to say "No," had the question come before us in its fairest form. If the proposition had been simply, what we conceive it ought to have been, that "it is expedient to open" such and such institutions on Sundays, we should, on these grounds, have met it with a direct negative. We deem it highly inexpedient, because, as we think, dangerous to the right of labour to one day's rest in every seven. But the motion, as framed by Sir Joshua Walmsley, involves, and, we suppose, was meant to involve a covert utterance of opinion on the religious propriety of the step proposed to be taken—and on this we deem it anything but the proper business of the Legislature to pronounce its judgment. The limitation of our space alone prevents us from pursuing this branch of our subject to its obvious conclusions. Should occasion arise, and opportunities permit, we shall be glad to resume our observations, and follow them out in this direction.

### THE CHURCH-RATE ABOLITION BILL.

We subjoin, *in extenso*, the Church-rate Abolition Bill which bears on its back the names of Sir W. Clay, Mr. Hunt, and Mr. Miall. It is to be read a second time, on Wednesday, March 5th:—

#### A BILL TO ABOLISH CHURCH-RATES, AND TO MAKE OTHER PROVISIONS IN LIEU THEREOF.

Whereas Church-rates have for some years ceased to be made or collected in many parishes by reason of the opposition thereto, and in many other parishes where Church-rates have been made the levying thereof has given rise to litigation and ill-feeling: and whereas it is expedient that the power to make Church-rates should be abolished: be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

I. From and after the passing of this act, no Church-rate shall be made or levied in any parish in England or Wales.

II. Provided always, That in any parish where a sum of money has before the passing of this act been legally borrowed under the provisions of any Act of Parliament on the security of Church-rates to be made and levied in such parish, such rates may still be made and levied for the purpose of paying off the money so borrowed, but



not otherwise, until the debt incurred under the powers and provisions of such act shall have been liquidated. provided also, that in any parish where, before the passing of this act, the salary of any person holding any particular office or employment in such parish has, under the provisions of any Act of Parliament, been charged upon, or made payable out of Church-rates to be made and levied in such parish, such rates may still be made and levied as heretofore for the purpose of paying such salary, but not otherwise, to the person entitled at the time of passing this act to receive the same, so long as such person shall continue to hold such office or employment, but no longer.

III. It shall be lawful for any churchwarden or churchwardens of a parish, or for any one churchwarden, if more than one in a parish, to collect and receive voluntary contributions for and towards any purpose or purposes for which Church-rates have been heretofore legally made and levied; and, subject to the provisions of this act, such churchwarden or churchwardens shall apply the funds or moneys resulting therefrom as they would have been bound to apply the same if such funds or moneys had been raised by Church-rates, and he or they shall be subject to the same duties, obligations, and liabilities in respect thereof as if such funds or moneys had been raised by Church-rates: provided always, that such churchwarden or churchwardens may apply such funds or moneys towards any purpose or purposes of the church of such parish which shall be approved of and allowed by the auditors to be appointed in the manner herein-before mentioned.

IV. No disbursement of such funds or moneys, or expenditure of any part thereof for any of the herein-before mentioned purposes, shall be made without the approval and allowance of the said auditors or the major part of them of such disbursement and expenditure, in the manner herein-after provided.

V. In every parish there shall be elected annually, at the usual period of appointing the parish officers for such parish, five persons to be auditors of the accounts of the parish church, of whom one shall be elected by the incumbent, or in his absence, by his licensed curate, and the other four shall be elected by the parishioners or inhabitants of such parish in vestry assembled, according to the usual mode of election of parish officers in such parish.

VI. The only persons eligible to fill the said office of auditor shall be the incumbent of the parish for the time being, and his licensed curate or curates, and all parishioners or inhabitants of such parish who, being ratepayers, shall be owners or occupiers of pews or seats in the parish church, or shall be adult male communicants at the parish church or any chapel of ease or other building within such parish licensed by the bishop for the celebration of the Holy Communion: provided also, that no person shall be eligible to fill the said office of auditor who shall be interested, either directly or indirectly in any contract, office, business, or employ, or in providing or supplying any materials or articles for the parish for which he is to serve; and any person who shall be discovered after his election to be so interested shall cease to be an auditor; provided also, that if any auditor shall die or become incapable of acting as auditor from any cause during the year, another auditor shall be forthwith appointed in his place by the incumbent, or, in his absence, by his licensed curate, or by the parishioners in vestry, according as the auditor so dying or becoming incapable of acting as aforesaid shall have been elected by the incumbent or the parishioners in the manner herein-before mentioned.

VII. The said auditors shall meet twice at least in every year for the purpose of approving and allowing the Estimates (if any), and of auditing the accounts of the churchwardens or churchwarden, and (a majority of the said auditors being present at such meetings) they shall proceed to consider such estimates (if any) and to audit such accounts; and for that purpose they shall have the like powers and authority as are given to auditors appointed under an act passed in the first and second years of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled "An Act for the better Regulation of Vestries, and for the Appointment of Auditors of Accounts in certain parishes of England and Wales." Provided always, that, if it shall be deemed necessary, the churchwarden or churchwardens of any parish may at any time by a two days' notice in writing signed by such churchwarden or churchwardens, summon such auditors to a special meeting to be held for the purpose aforesaid; and the mode of proceeding and the powers of the auditors shall be the same at a special as at a regular meeting.

VIII. The churchwarden or churchwardens of any parish shall, within a reasonable time after his or their admission into office, and from time to time during his or their continuance in office if necessary, prepare, or cause to be prepared, and sign an estimate in writing of the probable current expenses of the year or of some part thereof, specifying therein the items of such probable expenditure; and such estimate shall be laid before the said auditors for their approval and allowance at one of their regular or special meetings, as herein-before provided; and the auditors (a majority of them being present) shall allow or disallow any part of the said estimate as they or the major part of them present shall think fit; and the said estimate, or such part of it as shall be allowed, shall be thereupon signed by the auditors approving and allowing the same in the presence of the clerk of the vestry of such parish, who shall also affix his signature to the same.

IX. The churchwardens or churchwarden of every parish are or is hereby required to cause a book or books to be purchased and kept, and true and regular accounts to be entered therein of all sums of money received or disbursed in virtue of their or his office, and of the several articles, matters, or things for which such sums of money shall have been so received or disbursed; and they or he shall lay before the said auditors at each of the said regular meetings a true statement or account in writing, accompanied with proper vouchers, of all voluntary contributions and other moneys received or disbursed by them in virtue of their office since the last period up to which the accounts were audited; and the said auditors shall thereupon proceed to audit the said accounts in the manner hereinbefore provided.

X. The said accounts when audited and approved by the said auditors or the major part of them, shall be signed by the auditors approving the same in the presence of the clerk of the vestry of such parish, and the said clerk of the vestry shall also affix his signature to

the same; and it shall be lawful for the said auditors or any of them to subjoin such remarks thereto as to them or him may seem fit.

XI. The said accounts, when so audited and signed, shall be deposited in the chest of such parish, and shall be open and accessible for the examination at any vestry of any parishioner entitled to vote at such vestry; and the churchwarden or churchwardens of such parish is or are hereby required, upon any parishioner entitled to vote at the vestry thereof applying, within fourteen days after the said accounts are so audited and signed, to make out and deliver an abstract of the said account to the persons so applying for the same, upon payment by such person of the sum of two shillings.

XII. If any dispute shall arise about allowing the estimates or accounts of the churchwardens, such dispute shall be decided by the ordinary or his official, who shall have full power to examine such estimates and accounts, and for such purpose to require the attendance before him of such person or persons, and the production of such books, documents, or writings, as he shall think fit, and to determine what articles, matters, or things are proper and reasonable, and ought to be allowed, and he shall thereupon allow the same, and his decision shall be final.

XIII. The balance of all moneys remaining in the hands of the churchwardens at the time of making their presentations on the expiration of their year of office shall be handed over by them to their successors in office, when duly admitted; and if any party shall make default or neglect or refuse to pay over any such balance when lawfully required so to do, any churchwarden duly admitted may sue for and recover any such balance by action in the name of the churchwardens of the parish.

XIV. In the construction of this act the word "parish" shall be understood to mean any ecclesiastical district legally assigned, having within it a consecrated church or chapel belonging to the Church of England; and the word "church" shall include any such chapel.

XV. This act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland.

XVI. This act may be cited as "The Church-rate Abolition Act, 1856."

#### THE "TIMES" ON CHURCH-RATES.

The leading journal yesterday has one of those significant articles on the Church-rate controversy which indicate the progress of the question. Attention is called to the fact that a civil war actually rages on the subject of Church-rates throughout the kingdom, yet no adequate scheme on the part of the Church for remedying the evil has been proposed which will satisfy reasonable people.

Meanwhile, every session is producing schemes from other quarters, all coming with the immense recommendation that, at all events, they settle the question. Many a man has acquiesced in a very strong remedy because he could not stand the worry, and fret, and discussion about a mild one. In like manner even quiet Church people will soon consent to the amputation of Church-rates altogether in order to save the perpetual blistering, plaitering, lancing, probing, cutting and hacking, that goes on at present. Indeed, every year that the Church declines to come forward with a remedy we are drifting nearer to the most summary possible treatment of the disorder.

The bill just introduced by Sir William Clay, Mr. Hutt, and Mr. Miall, to abolish Church-rates, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof, will probably not be very acceptable to those Church people who have stood out for the Church's common law right to a maintenance by rates. It proposes to substitute for the rates voluntary subscriptions, to be spent, as the rates are now, by the churchwardens, subject to five auditors, to be nominated, one by the clergyman, the other four by the congregation. This part of the bill is of the less importance, inasmuch as the auditors would not be wanted if there were no subscriptions, and, if there were, the subscribers would probably take their own measures for the proper employment of their money. The real gist of the bill is the substitution of a voluntary collection for a forced rate, and, though this may seem to give up the whole question as regards the Church, yet we cannot help suspecting it will come to this in the long run. It certainly will if the Church does nothing. Had the Church in the metropolis not followed bad counsels, and resisted the extramural interment bills, one and all, for so many years, it would probably have made a much better bargain than it has now. The same result may be expected from the tenacity with which the Church clings to its rates. If it sets its face against all accommodation and all adjustment of claims, it will find that one day it will have to swallow as best it can some such simple and final measure as that now before us.

#### THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

Sir Joshua Walmsley's motion comes before the House of Commons to-morrow (Thursday). It is, according to report, to be opposed by the united strength of the Government.

During the past week there has been a continuous stream of petitions to the House of Commons from all parts of the United Kingdom in opposition to the opening of the Museum, &c., on Sunday, and they have emanated from Churchmen, Dissenters, and all sections of the community. The demands upon our space will not admit of our insertion of the list of places from which they emanated. We may, however, mention, that up to last Tuesday, 168 petitions with 16,686 signatures were presented, while since that period there have been some 500 additional.

On Thursday a deputation, headed by the Rev. J. Keeling, President of the Wesleyan Conference, had an interview with Viscount Palmerston, to represent the effects to be apprehended to the Wesleyan congregations and schools from the measure proposed by Sir Joshua Walmsley.

On Monday evening a public meeting of persons engaged in Sunday-school teaching was held at Exeter-hall, to protest against the proposed opening of the Crystal Palace, British Museum, National Gallery, &c., on Sundays. The large hall was well filled by a mixed assemblage. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and in opening the proceedings remarked that the body of persons assembled on that occasion was more qualified than any other to speak on the evils which would probably result from the movement on foot for opening certain

places of amusement on the Sabbath to the rising generation. He argued at considerable length on the evils which would result generally if the proposed measure was carried out, contending that if the British Museum, and other places of a like nature, were opened, the theatres would soon have to be opened also; for though there might be a logical distinction between those places on paper, there would be no such distinction in the minds of a certain class of individuals. The moral and religious character of this country was now at stake, and he called upon the meeting to protest against the proposed innovation on the sacredness of the Sabbath-day.—Mr. CHAMBERS, M.P., moved a resolution to the effect that the civil and religious privileges and social prosperity of this country have been upheld, and its tranquillity preserved, by the firm and steady attachment of its people to the fundamental principles and observances of Christianity, and especially by their reverence for the sanctity of the Lord's-day.—The Hon. and Rev. B. NOEL supported the resolution at some length, and it was carried unanimously.—Mr. BALL, M.P., moved—

That this meeting perceives with deep regret that it is intended to move the House of Commons in favour of opening the British Museum, the National Gallery, and the Crystal Palace, on the afternoon of the Lord's-day; measures which, if adopted, would lead in various ways to a desecration of that day, and interfere with the labours of Sunday-school teachers, by inducing their scholars to forsake the school and public worship.

The resolution was carried, and a petition against the proposed measure having been adopted, the proceedings terminated.

On Sunday, in the parish of Islington, some sixty sermons on the subject of the due observance of the Lord's-day were preached by the clergy and ministers of various religious denominations in thirty-two churches and chapels.

On Tuesday there was a meeting at St. George's Hall, Lambeth. Mr. Corderoy was to have presided, but, owing to a domestic calamity, was prevented. In his absence, Mr. Truman occupied the chair. Mr. JAMES ORR was called on to move the first resolution:—

That this meeting, believing that the National and other large Institutions are not open sufficiently during the six working-days of the week for the recreation and instruction of the working-classes, is of opinion, that steps should be taken to give the full benefit of these Institutions to those who desire to benefit from them on Monday, Friday, and Saturday.

Mr. SWINDON seconded it. Mr. TIRRELL moved an amendment, boldly declaring for the opening of places of amusement on the Sabbath-day, supporting it by a vehement tirade of vulgar abuse of the clergy. The Rev. JOHN WADDINGTON, in an able speech, supported the original resolution. The voting was about equal.

In a Convocation holden at Oxford on Thursday, which was attended by about fifty of its members, a proposal to affix the University seal to a humble petition to be presented to the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, against the following motion, now before the House, viz: "That, in the opinion of this House, it would promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the working classes of this metropolis if the collections of natural history and of art in the British Museum and the National Gallery were open to the public inspection after morning service on Sundays," was carried by a majority of twenty: the numbers being—placet, 34; non-placet, 14. No speeches were made on the occasion.

Public meetings have been held in various towns on the subject during the past week, for the most part without disturbance. But at Huddersfield, Darham, and Dover, much uproar arose. In the first-named town, the Mayor declared a resolution carried, moved by the Vicar, as to the obligation of the Sabbath. To a second resolution declaring the observance of the Sabbath essential to man's welfare, another amendment was moved, declaring the desirableness of opening the Crystal Palace and British Museum on Sundays. This amendment, the chairman declared to be carried, amidst much cheering; but a resolution to petition Parliament against such opening having been followed by an amendment to precisely the opposite effect, the chairman strangely enough declared the resolution carried, and this led to great confusion. At length the chairman offered to put the motion again, but he was hustled off the platform, the lights were put out, and the meeting was thus abruptly terminated, after lasting four hours and a half. At Durham, where the Mayor also presided, his decision that a resolution against Sunday opening was carried, gave rise to a good deal of difference, and the meeting was most excited and unruly. For the last half hour of the meeting not a word that fell from the speakers could be heard beyond the platform. At Dover the scene was precisely similar.

A densely crowded meeting was held on Friday night in Leeds, to petition Parliament against Sir Joshua Walmsley's motion. A powerful opposition was organised; but the petition was carried by an overwhelming majority.

We are authorised to state that the paragraph in our last number copied from the *Patriot*, stating that a vote of censure had been passed upon Mr. W. Biggs, M.P. for Newport, at a meeting of his constituents for his public conduct, and that he had been requested to resign his seat, is not true. No vote of the kind, we are told, has been passed. As our readers know, Mr. Biggs has proved a valuable member of the House of Commons in many ways, and a consistent supporter of every motion for the promotion of civil and religious liberty. We, therefore, greatly regret having given currency to a statement calculated to injure him as a public man.

#### LIBERATION OF RELIGION SOCIETY.

GLASGOW.—THE VOLUNTARY MOVEMENT. — On Tuesday evening last, a number of the leading voluntaries of this city assembled at the Religious Institu-



tion Rooms, to confer with a deputation from the "Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control," with a view to secure the co-operation of Scottish Dissenters with their brethren in the South, who have recently with so much success conducted their Parliamentary campaigns. W. P. Paton, Esq., was in the chair; and the Rev. Dr. Robson, A. Raleigh, John Ker, David Russell, George Jeffrey, and A. Fraser, took part in the proceedings. The society was represented by Mr. W. Hickman Smith and the Rev. E. S. Pryce, A.B., and after explanations given by these gentlemen, strong commendation was expressed of the society's present practical and business-like mode of action. Several suggestions were made as to the way in which co-operation might be rendered in Glasgow, and a committee was appointed to conduct correspondence, and endeavour to obtain subscriptions, for which we understand applications are now being made. It unfortunately happened that an adjourned meeting of Presbytery prevented the attendance of many of the ministers and elders of the U. P. Church, who expressed their willingness to unite in the movement.—*The Commonwealth*, of Feb. 16.

**ALLOA.**—On Friday evening last, Mr. Pryce visited this town, and addressed a meeting which had been convened at the Session-house of the United Presbyterian Church. Revs. Peter McDowall and J. More, of Alloa, and Rev. J. Campbell, of the London Missionary Society, were present, and the proceedings were earnest and unanimous.

**EDINBURGH.**—A party of gentlemen in this city assembled to confer with Mr. Price at breakfast in Queen-street Hall on Monday morning last. Andrew Fyfe, Esq., was in the chair, and the meeting comprised several parties who have been opposed in the recent election. Explanations were freely asked and given of the Society's proceedings to the satisfaction of all present, and arrangements were made for a more general gathering, which is to take place at Queen-street Hall this evening.

**PAISLEY.**—Mr. Smith met a number of influential gentlemen, in the Divinity Hall, on Friday evening, Feb. 15. Rev. Dr. Baird presided; and Mr. Smith's statement afforded great satisfaction. A committee was appointed and assurances of support were given.

**SIR BENJAMIN HALL ON THE SUNDAY BANDS.**—The inhabitants of Kensington have recently addressed the First Commissioner of Works, expressing their sense of the evil of the Sunday band in Kensington-gardens, with its accompaniments, as shown by the experience of last season. Their Memorial concludes with an earnest request to Sir Benjamin Hall to reconsider the subject, and to decline renewing the order of last year. To this address the right honourable gentleman has returned a reply, in which he says:—

The best proof that such a recreation was appreciated is to be found in the fact, that on each Sunday evening on which the band played, numbers of persons, varying from 38,000 to nearly 80,000, congregated together for the purpose of enjoyment. I was present on some of those days; I never saw anything more admirable than the conduct of the people. I could not observe any one single act to deprecate; and, notwithstanding the immense assemblages, I was informed by the superintendent of the gardens, that he could not ascertain that a flower had been plucked or a shrub damaged. No one would deprecate more strongly than myself any measure which might be expected to lead to a desecration of the Lord's-day; but I cannot regard in this light the innocent amusement which has been afforded to the public by the performance of the band in Kensington-gardens on Sunday evening after the hours of Divine worship.

**THE NEW BISHOP OF CARLISLE.**—The Hon. and Rev. M. Villiers, Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, has been appointed to the vacant bishopric of Carlisle. The honourable and reverend gentleman, who was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, is brother of the Earl of Clarendon, and brother-in-law of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In 1841, being then twenty-nine years of age, he was appointed by the Lord Chancellor to the rectory of St. George's, Bloomsbury, worth 800*l.* a year; and in 1847 he was nominated by Lord John Russell, then Prime minister, to a canonry residentiary in St. Paul's Cathedral, worth 1,000*l.* a year. Mr. Villiers has been for many years past one of the leaders of the Evangelical party in the Church, but has never interfered in politics. The new bishop will not have a seat in the House of Lords. *The Daily News* says: "A better selection could not have been made. Thoroughly imbued with religious sentiment and conviction, yet free from fanaticism—liberal in his political views—impressive and winning in his public ministrations,—Mr. Villiers has, by his devoted and unremitting labours as a parochial clergyman, given earnest of the judicious but indefatigable zeal with which he will discharge the weightier functions of the Episcopate. There are few in any Church who combine in so high a degree the essential qualities of a Christian Bishop. It ought to be generally known that the appointment took Mr. Villiers's family by surprise. Even Lord Clarendon was only told of it after the appointment had been made. Mr. Villiers was not personally known to Lord Palmerston. This is honourable to all parties."

**THE ST. BARNABAS DISPUTE.**—On Wednesday, the Arches Court was engaged in hearing an appeal from the decision of the Consistory Court at London, in the case of St. Barnabas, Pimlico. An allegation was now tendered on behalf of the appellants, in which it was alleged that, prior to the consecration of the church on the 11th June, 1850, the Bishop of London was apprised by the then incumbent that the metal cross referred to in the proceedings was, or at the time of the consecration would be, affixed upon the holy communion table as it

now appeared, and that a wooden cross would be affixed upon the chancel screen; that the bishop, after deliberation, verbally consented to the crosses being permanently affixed, and the same were accordingly so affixed at the time of the consecration with the knowledge and approbation of the bishop. Dr. Bayford opposed the admission of the allegation, which he contended was immaterial to the issue in the cause. The learned Judge (Sir J. Dodson) was of opinion that, looking at all the facts, the allegation was admissible, and he therefore directed it to go to proof.

**A DISORDERLY CLERGYMAN.**—A commission has been issued by the Bishop of Durham to inquire into charges of drunkenness against the Rev. Alexander J. Howell, Perpetual Curate of Darlington. The commissioners were the Ven. Archdeacon Thorp, the Rev. Messrs. Eade, Dyke, and Dagard, and Mr. J. H. Aylmer, a magistrate of Durham. The proceedings were conducted with closed doors, but the decision was given in open court. Archdeacon Thorp stated their unanimous opinion that the charges of drunkenness, and something like habitual drunkenness, had been so far proved as to present *prima facie* evidence against Mr. Howell, and it was their intention to make that report to the bishop, who would be morally and legally required to proceed against him. He would (the Ven. Archdeacon repeated) be not only morally bound, but legally bound to do so. The costs of the defence, it is said, have been met by a subscription in the town.—*Durham Advertiser*.

**DR. PUSEY ON THE REFORMATION.**—A recent writer in the *Brighton Gazette* alluded to a declaration of Dr. Pusey's against the Reformation, as a matter of notoriety. In consequence of the statements thus made, the following letter of Dr. Pusey's, addressed to the Rev. T. W. Perry, has been published: "My dear Friend,—I never said or wrote a word in disparagement of the English Reformation. You know that I always disliked the influence of the foreign Reformers upon ours; but that was passing. I could not use such an expression as 'the principles, if any, of the English Reformation.' Nor should I ever have admitted it into any work for which I was responsible. For I have always believed that the English Reformation had very definite principles, and what I have wished to do (as far as in me lay) was to bring people back to the principles of the English Reformation, as expressed in the Prayer-book and Homilies. I am not conscious of having done one thing beyond the principles of the English Reformation. The Reformers acknowledged the Holy Scriptures as the sole source of faith; they acknowledged the early ages of the Gospel as its best interpreter; Œcumenical Councils as authoritative; they believed in the sacrament of baptism, the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist; they provided a form of absolution for penitents; who specially confessed their sins; they believed in the value of good works done through the grace of Christ and by His Spirit; they believed that He would come again at the end of the world to judge both the quick and dead according to their works. They gave directions as to days and seasons of fasting; they taught the value of almsgiving, of daily public prayer, of frequent communions, and so on. I believe that those whom people call Tractarians have in the main been true to the principles of the English Reformation, and I must believe that those who taunt us with not being true to those principles, themselves only take as much of them as they like. God is the judge. I wish those who so judge us would only exercise as much charity and take as much pains to know what we really believe, and look to anything which they would think good in our teaching, if they knew it, as they would in the case of Dissenters. There would soon be more peace and a better understanding, by God's blessing. Ever yours affectionately, E. B. PUSEY. Christ Church, Feb. 3."

**MR. SAMUEL WARREN, M.P., ON CHURCH-RATES.**—The newly-elected member for Midhurst, in correcting a report of his speech, says: "I am represented as having declared that I 'was desirous of the abolition of Church-rates,—and this as a firm Church of England man.' This error has already exposed me to inquiries. I stated that 'I should deal with the difficult question as a friend of the Church, and cautiously, lest the thin end of the wedge might be slipped in, and separate the connexion between Church and State;' and I added, that 'the question was one to be settled by intelligent and practical statesmen, and in a true Christian feeling.' I went no further than this, and offered nothing approaching to a pledge."

**THE GREEK CHURCH.**—On Friday last the Rev. Basil Cooper delivered, at Myddelton Hall, Islington, the second of the course of lectures on Religious Establishments. Edward Swaine, Esq., occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks congratulated the committee on their felicitous choice of topics. That selected for that evening was "Holy Russia," or the Greek Church in alliance with the State. The lecturer adverted to the fact that the Austrian Concordat was not admitted into Russia, lest the freedom accorded to the Romish Church by the State should invite the Greek Church to rebel. He described that Church as being the Czar's right hand, and said that, whereas the Romish Church claimed all for God, the Greek Church gave all to Caesar. He then, with graphic eloquence, described the abject condition of the Greek clergy, and the low estate of their Church, which had never been stirred by any considerable controversy, was without a literature, or any intellectual or preaching power, and was, in fact, "a mausoleum of dead souls." He then pointed out the effect of all this on Russian civilization, and the repressive influence excited on all missionary, Bible distributing, and other Christian efforts—all which, he contended, was the ripe fruit of the Constantinean theory. At the

close of a lengthy lecture, listened to with unabated interest, Mr. Templeton moved, and the Rev. Owen Clarke seconded, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who, in reply, said that they had been placed under great obligations to the lecturer for his instructive and painfully interesting address, which should inspire their hearts with pity for the Russians, and induce them to pray for their religious and social elevation. Next Friday, Mr. Cooper is to discourse on Protestantism in alliance with the State, in the establishment of the Church of England.

**RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN TURKEY.**—A numerous and influential public meeting was held last week at Torquay, for the purpose of petitioning the Queen "in favour of procuring an entire abolition of the capital punishment now inflicted upon Mohammedans becoming Christians in Turkey." After the meeting had been addressed by several speakers, prominent amongst whom was Sir Culling Eardley, a Memorial to Her Majesty was adopted in furtherance of the object for which the meeting was called, and a Committee having been formed for the signing of the Memorial, the meeting separated.

## Religious Intelligence.

**WALWORTH.**—The anniversary of Sutherland Chapel Sunday-school was held on Tuesday, the 29th January, when 130 of the friends sat down to tea in the school-room, after which a public meeting was held in the chapel. The Rev. Edward Bewlay, pastor of the church, presided, and, after singing and prayer, gave a short address appropriate to the occasion. Mr. G. Churcher, the secretary, read a report of the proceedings during the past year, and an abstract of the cash account, which were adopted, upon the motion of A. G. Snellgrove, Esq., seconded by the Rev. George Garner. The Rev. P. J. Turgand then spoke upon the subject of "Our Sunday-schools; their importance in relation to their influence upon general society," and the Rev. Wm. Howison, upon "Our Sunday-schools and the Church of Christ, their relation and mutual influence." Other addresses were delivered by Joseph Maitland, Esq., and Mr. B. L. Green, who represented the "Newington Branch Sunday-school Union," and spoke upon "the projected canvass of London." The proceedings were deeply interesting.

**LECTURE BY REV. NEWMAN HALL, B.A.**—On Monday evening last (18th inst.), this gentleman delivered a lecture on the temperance question, in the large room of the Young Men's Christian Association, Aldersgate-street, which was crowded in every part. The chair was occupied by Samuel Morley, Esq., who stated that for the last three years he had been acting on the total abstinence principle, and had found it to suit him well, both in a physical and mental point of view. It was his conviction that strong drink had more to do with sinking the people and keeping them sunk, socially, politically, and religiously, than all other causes put together. The lecturer, after noticing the comprehensive nature of Gospel benevolence, cited a variety of facts in relation to the grain used and the money expended in the consumption of intoxicating liquors, and the results of drinking customs upon the morality and religious institutions of the age. The efficiency of a total abstinence example in securing personal safety, and preserving others from temptation and possible ruin, was ably enlarged upon, with special application to Christian young men. An opportunity was allowed for the statement of objections and difficulties entertained by the audience, and when these had been replied to by Mr. Hall, a cordial vote of thanks to both lecturer and chairman was proposed by the Secretary of the National Temperance Society and carried with loud applause. The proceedings, which had been opened with prayer by Rev. T. Richardson, Curate of St. Andrew's, Southwark, were concluded by singing the Doxology. A considerable number of signatures to the temperance pledge was received, and a strong impulse given to a careful consideration of that important subject.

**PRIZE ESSAY ON THE HINDOO RELIGION.**—Some time ago a gentleman in the civil service of the East India Company offered a prize of 800*l.* for the best "Statement and Refutation of the Hindoo Systems of Philosophy," to be awarded by examiners appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of London and Oxford, who had agreed to act as trustees. Several essays were, in consequence, given in at the end of 1854; but on examination last summer none of them was found satisfactory, and the prize was not awarded. The episcopal trustees have given notice that a further period (till the 31st of December, 1857) will be allowed to the old competitors and to new candidates for revising or composing their treatises, which are to be given in at the office of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Pall-mall. A printed notification, stating the objects and conditions of this prize competition, has been placed in the common rooms of the several colleges.

**THE REV. C. B. GRIBBLE,** Chaplain of the London Church for Seamen, is about to devote two months to an interesting and important voyage in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, visiting Malta, Alexandria, Constantinople, and other great ports, to prosecute inquiries into the religious necessities of British seamen frequenting those places.

**HADDENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.**—Mr. John Mostyn, of Horton College, has accepted an unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Baptist Church, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire; and will commence his stated labours on the second Sunday in April next.

**TAUNTON.**—The Rev. Archibald McMillan, of Gomersal, near Leeds, has received and accepted from the Church assembling in the Independent Chapel, North-street, Taunton, recently under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. Quick, a most cordial, earnest, and unanimous invitation to become its pastor, and, in



submission to the will of God, will enter on his new sphere of labour the first Sabbath of March next.

### Correspondence.

#### THE HUME TESTIMONIAL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

My dear Sir,—The thought has frequently occurred to me, that the Dissenters of the United Kingdom are largely indebted to the late Mr. Hume for his long, disinterested, and faithful advocacy of their just claims, and of those principles to which they do, or ought to, attach the highest importance, viz., Religious and Civil Liberty; and it does appear to me, that a charge, amounting almost to ingratitude, rests upon them, for not having ere this, come forward in some especial manner, to do honour to his memory. Never let it be said, that the Nonconformists of England lack the virtue or the intelligence to appreciate the character of such a man. I feel that it is not necessary, Mr. Editor, to intrude largely on your columns by the enumeration of his many disinterested labours on their behalf, to induce you to exert your powerful and increasing influence, or them to support such influence, in the promotion of this duty; but I would suggest that immediate steps be taken in order that they, in their separate character, may at once unite with others who are laudably exerting themselves for this purpose. Let a public meeting be held in London, a committee be formed, and subscription-lists opened.

With a hearty desire to co-operate with others in the object, I am,

My dear Sir, your humble and faithful servant,  
JOHN CUNNINGTON.

Brentford, Middlesex, Feb. 18, 1856.

#### THE MISSION-HOUSE LETTER.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—I ask you as an act of kindness, and of justice to a heavily-afflicted minister of Jesus Christ, to insert in the next number of your journal, the following facts: First, I have obtained possession of the original of the impure part of the letter alleged to have been written by Mr. to Mrs. Davies, in 1845. It is in print, and was published in an obscene book in the year 1823. Second, the following document was signed, on Saturday last, by Mr. Davies:—

(Copy.)

I hereby solemnly declare that I have never before seen, nor have I ever had in my possession, the book, nor a copy of the book now shown to me by the Rev. William Taylor Wild, B.D., nor any other book of a similar character: and that I not only did not copy from the said book, or any other book of a similar character, the impure part of the letter alleged to have been written by me to my wife, but I solemnly repeat on this, my bed of affliction, that I neither wrote, nor copied the whole, nor any part of the alleged letter, said to have been picked up in the Mission House.

(Signed) EBENEZER DAVIES.  
(In the presence of) W. T. WILD.

6, Richmond-terrace, Islington, February 16, 1856.

I leave these facts without comment.

Your obedient servant,  
ROBERT AINSLIE.

Mornington-road, February 19, 1856.

### Parliamentary Proceedings.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Administrative Reform, in favour of, 2.  
Bank Charter Act, against renewal of, 1.  
for inquiry, 1.  
Church-rates, against abolition of, 41.  
Lord's-day, against Opening of Public Exhibitions, 413.  
Medical Profession Bill, against, 1.  
in favour of, 3.  
Police (Counties, &c.) Bill, against, 22.  
Sale of Beer Act, for repeal of, 2.  
Union Houses, against rating of, 2.  
Civil Service Superannuation, against present plan, 1.  
Cemeteries Law, for amendment, 2.  
Impeachment of Lord Palmerston, 1.  
Lord Clarendon (from Sheffield), 1.  
Local Dues on Shipping, &c. Bill, for alteration, 1.  
in favour of, 1.  
Maynooth College Act, for repeal of, 2.  
Obsolete Acts, for repeal of, 1.  
Public-houses (Scotland) Act, against repeal of, 1.  
for extending to Ireland, 1.  
Oaths, for the abolition of, 1.  
The War, for indemnity from Russia, 1.  
Reformatory Schools, in favour of, 1.  
Arbitration, in favour of, 1.  
Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill, against, 1.  
for compensation, 1.  
Intoxicating Liquors, for prohibiting the Sale of on Lord's-day, 1.  
Kara, for inquiry into the Fall of, 1.  
War, for bringing to an end, 1.

##### BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Summary Jurisdiction Bill.  
Civil Service Superannuation Bill.

##### BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Formation &c. of Parishes Bill.  
Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill.  
Drainage Advances Acts Amendment Bill.  
Turnpike Trusts Arrangements Bill.  
Commons Inclosure Bill.

##### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Joint Stock Banks (Scotland) Bill.

##### DIVISION OF PARISHES.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of a bill to facilitate the formation and endowment of separate and distinct parishes. It was identical with the bill introduced and explained last session. At present there are several kinds of Church districts: district parishes, where the clergyman may perform weekly and daily service, but may not marry, baptize, or bury; district chapelries, coming under the same law; consolidated chapelries, formed out of more than one parish, where all the services of the Church may be performed; and particular districts formed under the Private Patronage Act. Under Sir Robert Peel's Act, also, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners are empowered to convert districts, where a church has been endowed, built, and consecrated, into parishes at once. The principle of the

present bill is to give power to make districts into independent parishes for ecclesiastical purposes. They are the offspring of the mother churches, and they should enjoy a full immunity of parochial privileges. The bill proposes to invest the patronage in the hands of the parties who endow the churches. Power is given to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to accept what endowment they think fitting, in exchange for patronage, in the case of churches endowed by pew-rents, of which the patronage is not specifically invested; churches the patronage of which is in the hands of mother churches; those in the gift of the Lord Chancellor and of the Duchy of Lancaster, of a less value than 200*l.* a year; and those in the gift of any corporation under 200*l.* yearly value. He proposed to give the Commissioners power to divide large parishes and their endowments; protecting existing interests, and in some cases awarding compensation. If the bill were read a second time, he proposed to refer it to a select committee.

Mr. HADFIELD, seconded by Mr. PELLATT, moved an amendment, postponing the second reading for six months. The honourable and learned member for Sheffield opposed the measure, as entirely changing the Ecclesiastical Establishment of the country. If this bill was to be referred to a select committee, he should like to be informed whether the religious feelings of different denominations of Dissenters would be represented. Were they to have no share in regulating the institutions of the country? This bill wished to give to the Government power to appropriate Crown lands for Church purposes. Was the House prepared for such a measure? Had not the Church property enough already? He hoped the House would never tolerate a grant of this kind, involving powers of such importance. The question of Church-rates was now on the point of being settled; he was persuaded that the majority of the House were prepared to decide in favour of the total abolition of Church-rates; and yet a new regulation was on the point of being made, and a new system was hastily introduced which was objectionable and offensive to large classes of the community. Who were really the managers of this measure? Had the noble lord really the control over it? Had he ever obtained the sanction of the heads of the Church? or was he acting on his own responsibility? Then, what course were the Government prepared to take? He trusted that, before such enormous powers were granted as this bill proposed, the Government would very carefully review the whole subject. They (the Dissenters) did not attempt to interfere with the free agency of any persons in the performance of their religious duties, and perfect free action was by them always asserted and maintained; nor were there more steadfast friends to liberty of conscience to be met with than among the Nonconformists. Was it right that pew-rents should be made a subject of endowment, when it was an acknowledged principle, and treated even as a matter of exultation among Churchmen, that the fabric of the Church was free to all the parishioners? He was hostile to the introduction of the bill, and moved that it might be read that day six months.

Sir G. GREY said that, in the opinion of the Government, the object of the measure was one of very great importance. (Hear, hear.) The principle of the bill, to provide more effectual means for the subdivision of large and populous parishes, had already been sanctioned by Parliament. He thought, therefore, it would be wrong to refuse the assent of the House to the second reading, more especially as the noble lord expressed his willingness to refer the details to a select committee. (Hear, hear.) As to the question of Church-rates, the only clause in the bill which could by possibility relate to them was the provision that pew-rents should be applied for the repairs of the church. This, however, referred only to new churches to be erected under the act.

Sir J. FERGUSON cordially supported the bill. The greatest benefits had been derived in Scotland from the erection of district churches; and he hoped the exertions of the noble lord for the benefit of the Church would be crowned with success in this instance.

Mr. A. PELLATT would wish to know how the committee was to be constituted? He supposed it would consist of thirteen members, and he thought one or two Nonconformists ought to be placed on it. He was sure every person must appreciate the motive of the noble lord.

Mr. HADFIELD withdrew his amendment; but, unless the committee was fairly constituted, he would take the sense of the House on it.

Mr. GLADSTONE was ready to admit that no member of the House ought to be excluded from the consideration of measures which related to the temporalities of the Church; to do so would be extremely invidious or offensive; but if any gentlemen who dissented from the Church were placed on a committee to consider a bill the avowed object of which was to promote the interests of the Established Church, they were bound to enter into that investigation with a real and sincere desire to promote those interests. He was glad to find that the honourable member for Southwark did not adopt the principle that he was bound to oppose a bill merely because it was intended to promote the purposes of the Established Church. With regard to the bill itself, he thought the noble lord had come to a wise decision in consenting to refer it to a select committee; any member of the Church of England who took an interest in her welfare must approve of the object of the bill, but it dealt with many questions of great difficulty and delicacy, such as the disappropriation of revenues and patronage, and the transfer of them to other hands, and the constitution and power of the laws. He therefore thought it ought to be referred to a committee.

Mr. Hadfield's amendment having been withdrawn,

the bill was read the second time, and referred to a select committee.

The following members have been nominated as the select committee on this bill: The Marquis of Blandford, Viscount Ebrington, Mr. Byng, Mr. Edward Egerton, Mr. George Butt, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Massey, Mr. Mowbray, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Dunlop, Lord John Manners, and Mr. Pellatt. Five to be the quorum; power to send for persons, papers, and records.

#### THE POLICE BILL.

On the motion of Sir G. GREY, that the Police (Counties and Boroughs) Bill be read the second time, Mr. HADFIELD again appeared in opposition, moving a fortnight's postponement of the question. The eighth section of the bill, he said, would establish, if passed, little better than a spy system; while the fifth, sixth, tenth, and eleventh, were also objectionable, mainly as interfering with the principle of local self-government. He knew of thirty boroughs which objected to the bill on principle; among which are, that which he represents, Birmingham, York, and Hull. For these reasons, he claimed more time for consideration. Sir GEORGE GREY attempted to show, that Mr. Hadfield had answered himself, in admitting that so many boroughs had had time to discover so many objections to the bill. However, he would not take the committee till Friday fortnight; listening, meanwhile, to the suggestions of deputations, though suspecting that they came, not to improve, but to damage the bill. Mr. HENLEY, followed by a number of members, shook the determination of the right honourable baronet; who, when he found that the right honourable member for Oxfordshire had not been able even to read the bill, that the letters referred to by Mr. Hadfield were from town-clerks representing that there had not been time to convene the Town-councils; and that, though it affected counties even more than boroughs, communication on the subject cannot by possibility have yet been held with the governing bodies, he became convinced that Mr. Hadfield had not answered himself, and, giving way to the general feeling of the House, was fain to let the amendment be carried.

#### CONSOLIDATION OF THE STATUTE LAW.

Sir FITZROY KELLY moved, on Thursday, for leave to bring in a bill for the consolidation of the Statute Law relating to offences against the person—the first of a series of bills for the consolidation of the entire Statute Law of England. After an exordium describing the confusion and inconsistency of the law, and the distinction between consolidation and codification, Sir Fitzroy described the plan on which he proposes to proceed. He proposes to take each subject dealt with by the law; to extract from the statute-book every statute, section, and line on the particular subject, remaining in force; to frame these into a consolidated statute, and to repeal all other enactments. As a beginning, he had framed two bills, one relating to offences against the person, the other to bills of exchange and promissory notes. On the latter subject there are thirteen acts; these he proposes to repeal, and to substitute in their place one statute, consisting of a consolidation of every section and line now in force in the thirteen. That would reduce the length of the statute-book by 400 or 500 pages; and a similar consolidation of the law relating to offences against the person will get rid of about 1,000 pages. If the plan were carried out with regard to all the subjects included in the law, the fifty volumes of the statute-book would be reduced to one-seventh or one eighth of that amount. The advantage is obvious. Instead of having to rely on a text-book, or having to refer to a heap of statutes, they would have to consult only one. The principle of consolidation would be applied to the numerous local enactments, such as those relating to seaport towns; likewise to the laws relating to the public revenue—four or five volumes of statutes in this branch are effete—to finance, to the army and navy, and other branches of the public service. As regards future legislation, there can be no doubt that one or more officers must be appointed, and vested with the authority of both Houses to watch over future legislation, and take charge of bills that will form the future consolidated statutes. When any change is made in the law on any subject, the bill altering the law should be annexed to the consolidated bill. He was satisfied that his scheme for the consolidation of the entire law is practicable; and he was equally satisfied that any attempt at codification would fail. To carry out the undertaking on which he had entered, he should have the support of the Statute Law Commission; but then it will be necessary that Parliament should provide some remuneration for those engaged in the mere manual labour. The expense, however, would not exceed from 50*l.* to 100*l.* upon any one entire subject of the law. The whole statute law can be consolidated within two years.

The motion was seconded by Lord STANLEY. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL gave the House to understand, that there is a difference of opinion among the Commissioners. He, for one, dissented from the proposed plan; though, in denying it to be Sir Fitzroy Kelly's, he admitted it to be that of the Commission as a body. So far from being completed in two years, the scheme would require two centuries. In his opinion, it ought to be much more comprehensive, and the whole plan of consolidation proceeded with simultaneously. Sir FITZROY KELLY, in explanation, stated that he appeared as an individual and as an independent member, though he had the sanction of all the members of the Commission who had attended to their duties! The SOLICITOR-GENERAL resolved the difference which had sprung up between himself and his learned colleague on the one hand, and the other members of the Commission on the other, into a question, whether the



statutes should be dealt with in fragments, as Sir F. Kelly now proposed, or, whether a philosophical analysis should be made, and, upon that basis, all the statutes be arranged and consolidated. Mr. STUART WORTLEY approved of this theory, but practically must give the preference to Sir Fitzroy Kelly's plan. Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE deemed codification both practicable and preferable; but Sir G. GREY and Mr. BAINES united in approval of proceeding by degrees, and in the manner proposed.

After a reply by Sir F. KELLY to the law-officers of the Crown, leave was given to bring in the bills.

#### IRISH JUDGES.

An animated debate arose on Thursday out of a motion by Sir JOHN SHELLEY, for a return showing the date of the call to the bar and of the appointment to the bench of Judges in Ireland; the number of times they had been absent, and in what instances substitutes had been provided. The object was to show that the Irish judges are incapacitated by old age and infirmities from attending properly to their duties. In the course of a long speech, Sir John raised a good deal of feeling by free reference to the ages of three judges—Chief Justice Lefroy, who has been fifty-nine years at the bar, and is eighty-two years of age; Justice Torrens, who is eighty-four years of age; and Baron Pennefather, who is eighty-five years of age, and blind. Sir John enlarged upon the blindness of Baron Pennefather; and, while admitting his high talents, contended that his blindness incapacitates him from fulfilling his duties. Sir John also alluded to Mr. Joseph Napier's deafness: Mr. Napier, he said, had been offered a judgeship by Lord Derby, and had refused on account of his infirmity of deafness—a personal allusion that drew forth cries of "Order!" and "Shame!"

Mr. KENNEDY, as an amendment, moved the omission of the words "in Ireland."

After a pause, Mr. NAPIER led off a debate with great warmth of feeling; denouncing attacks like these on the Irish Judges—attacks on them, not for misconduct, not for immorality, but for the atrocious crime of being old men! Was there no men in Parliament old, and vigorous, and wise? There was, he supposed, to be an address to the Crown: would Sir John Shelley get Lord Lyndhurst to move it in the House of Peers? With great energy Mr. Napier defended all the Judges, and especially Baron Pennefather, from the imputations implied in the motion; and read testimonies to his great efficiency, from Chief Baron Pigott, Baron Richards, and Baron Greene, and an extract from a judgment of the present Lord Chancellor. Baron Pennefather possessed a wonderful memory; he felt that he could fulfil the duties of his office, and he did not wish to burden the country with a retiring pension. Was the motion made in good faith, or was it a stalking-horse? If judges are to be attacked because they are old, where will such proceedings stop?

Sir GEORGE GREY asserted the right of the House to entertain the motion, and explained the position of the Government. Last session a member complained of the incapacity of the Irish Judges, and the Government thought it necessary to inquire into its foundation. In answer to an application, Lord Carlisle stated that the complaint was exaggerated; but that Baron Pennefather was unfortunately blind, and that although he discharged his duties well, yet Lord Carlisle would not justify the retention of his seat under the circumstances. Through the Lord-Lieutenant, the Government intimated to Baron Pennefather that if a motion were brought before the House of Commons, the Government would not be able to defend his continuance on the bench. That was all the Government had done in the matter.

Mr. DISRAELI observed, that the Government had not frankly met the question; and that it is unwise, impolitic, and injurious, to pull judges into the House of Commons unless in cases where the House must interfere. In this case there was no complaint, not even an anonymous slander, against Baron Pennefather. Yet because the Home Secretary wishes to give Baron Pennefather a hint that he should quit the bench, we find him sanctioning this miserable, this indecent motion. Age and blindness did not necessarily incapacitate a judge. Lord Lyndhurst, older than Baron Pennefather, was treated, three years ago, for an affection of the eyes. A blind man wrote the "Paradise Lost," and a blind General captured Constantinople, an achievement which the Czar Nicholas had failed to accomplish. Referring to the debate on the Wensleydale peerage, and the part Lord Lyndhurst took in it, Mr. Disraeli said, that eminent person was within these few years suffering under the same infirmity as Baron Pennefather.

Sir GEORGE GREY called out—"He is not a judge."

Mr. DISRAELI—"Not a judge! Why, it is no wonder that Her Majesty's Ministers have no confidence in the High Court of Appeal in the other House, when the Secretary of State for the Home Department comes down to the House of Commons and declares that Lord Lyndhurst is not a judge!" (Opposition cheers.)

The debate was continued with spirit by Sir Frederick Thesiger, Mr. Stuart Wortley, and Mr. George, against the motion; and by the Attorney-General, Mr. H. Bruce, and Lord Palmerston, in its favour. Lord Palmerston deprecated a division, and intimated that it would be better for Sir John Shelley to withdraw the motion. If pressed, he should certainly support it; but, out of respect to the Judges, he thought the motion should not be pressed to a division.

Sir JOHN SHELLEY refused to give way, and the House divided. First, on Mr. Kennedy's amendment, the numbers were—for the amendment, 120; against it, 134; majority against, 14. On the original motion—Ayes, 132; Noes, 121; majority for the motion, 11.

#### OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, on Friday, Mr. ROEBUCK called the attention of the House to our relations with the United States of America, and moved for the production of all correspondence with the Government of those States relative to the conduct of Mr. Crampton. He commenced by impressing upon the House the necessity of this question being properly understood in this country, and that it should be ascertained who was to blame for the unsatisfactory state of our relations with America. He remarked that the laws of the United States prohibited recruiting for foreign service, and that in the early days of the Republic the federal authorities had required the French Minister of that period to be removed for such an infraction of their laws. Their jealousy on this subject, therefore, was only natural. He then proceeded to show from documents read that at the late trials in the United States Mr. Crampton knew that he was breaking the law when he took measures to procure enlistment; next, that he took means to evade it; and, thirdly, that he was supported in the evasion by the Governor of Nova Scotia, and by the Governor-General of Canada. Urged to it by the Home Government, under these circumstances, he (Mr. Roebuck) contended that the Government of the United States was justified in requiring the recall of Mr. Crampton, and that the apology which the Government had tendered was a delusion to the House and the country. He, therefore, called first for a specific answer to this question, as to what instructions were given to Mr. Crampton; and, next, for an expression of opinion on the part of the House.

I want this House, on the part of the people of this country, to say to our brethren across the water, that we sympathise with them; that we rejoice in all their greatness and good fortune; that we are running with them the race of improvement as brethren and not as enemies; that we desire the good of humanity, and that we would work it out with their aid; but that we feel that a war with America would retard the advancement of mankind for centuries, and that a war with any part of Europe would sink into insignificance compared with it.

Mr. HADFIELD seconded the motion.

Lord PALMERSTON repeated what he stated on a former occasion, that the correspondence was incomplete; that it is still incomplete; that the Government cannot complete it until information has been received from America respecting the allegations made by the United States Government against our Minister and Consuls; but that very shortly the whole correspondence shall be laid before the House. It is said that it was a violation of the municipal law of the United States to give information to persons willing to go into British North America that they would be enlisted if found fit. "Sir, the United States is not the empire of Russia. *Civitas non carcer est.*" The United States is a free country, and would not impose any restraint to prevent a man from quitting its boundaries. In the course of these transactions, offers were repeatedly made to Her Majesty's officers in the United States, by persons conspiring to entrap them into something that might be construed into a violation of the American law.

The honourable and learned member says that the apology made by Her Majesty's Government was insincere and treacherous. The truth of that assertion I utterly deny. (Cheers.) I utterly and entirely deny that we made that apology, intending to continue the violation of the law for which it professed to be the satisfaction. Sir, we had given directions that these proceedings, which might give umbrage to the United States, should be discontinued. The assertion made in the last despatch from the American Government is that, after these directions were given, and after the explanation was tendered, some of these proceedings were continued. The truth of that assertion remains to be ascertained. If such was the case, the proceedings were clearly against the intentions and without the knowledge of the British Government. (Cheers.) I repeat that that explanation, that statement of orders revoked, that expression of regret—not regret as the honourable and learned gentleman says, that the laws of the United States had been violated, because we did not believe that such a violation had occurred—but regret that anything should have occurred which could be considered by the American Government to amount to such a violation—was received by the American Minister at this Court with an expression on his part of a belief that it would be deemed satisfactory by his Government. As a proof that such was his belief, I may mention that he some time afterwards received a despatch directing him to make a second remonstrance, and that he put that despatch into his pocket, and abstained from communicating it to this Government, because he believed that the communication which he had previously forwarded to his Government would be deemed satisfactory. (Cheers.)

Lord Palmerston was forced to make these premature statements by Mr. Roebuck's extraordinary conduct. Though he knows that the whole question is still open, he rushes in, with hasty impatience, with the brief of his country's antagonist in his hand, to interpose between two Governments, and prevent, if possible, that amicable arrangement which Governments cannot come to unless left to their own action. At the close of his speech, Lord Palmerston expressed a strong sense of the calamities of a war between the two countries, but insisted that it would be equally calamitous—"equally, let it be clearly understood"—to both. Friendly sentiments are reciprocated on both sides.

I am persuaded that there is so much right feeling in the people of the United States, that they attach so much value to the friendship of the people of this great empire, and that they are so sensible that the interests of both are inseparably bound up with the maintenance of friendly relations between the two, that these matters of difference, when they are laid before the Congress of the United States, as they will be before the Parliament of Great Britain, will receive the calm, dispassionate, and reasonable consideration which is essential to their amicable settlement, and which will, I trust, prevent any individuals, either on the one side of the Atlantic or

the other, from plunging the two countries into the calamities of war. (Much cheering.)

Mr. DISRAELI would not support the motion, but he protested against the language of Lord Palmerston in taunting Mr. Roebuck with holding a brief from the enemy. Besides, he considered the noble lord's statement *ex parte* and indiscreet. Was the tone of the debate to be taken from the noble lord, who more than intimated that there had been a conspiracy on the part of the American Government to entrap our officers in the United States?

Lord PALMERSTON said he had not referred to the American Government, but to other persons.

Mr. DISRAELI accepted this explanation, and hoped that the papers would now be produced, as he regretted that the subject should have been introduced, because any apology founded upon equivocation could not be otherwise than dangerous. He recommended the motion to be withdrawn under the present circumstances; if not he should vote against it, but he did not mean by that vote to express any approbation of the noble lord's tone of language.

Mr. ROEBUCK: My object is sufficiently attained. I withdraw the motion. (Cheers.)

#### CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION.

Sir G. LEWIS moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the act relating to the Superannuation of the Civil Service. The nature of the amendment he did not explain except in the briefest manner; but he entered deeply into a narrative of the origin, progress, and changes made in the regulations relating to the subject; and, taking up the memorial of the civil servants, he endeavoured to show that its allegations are without foundation, especially in charging successive Governments with a breach of faith in making an illegal application of the funds derived from the deductions. The bill he mentioned in these terms:—

I do not propose to make an alteration in the system of deductions. The amendments that I ask the leave of this House to make, are limited to alterations in the scale of superannuation allowance. I propose to make it more liberal than the existing scale, and to make it resemble more nearly the old scale than that which is now in existence. These amendments will be accompanied with several changes rendering the allowance-fund more liberal to the civil service; but beyond this I do not propose to go. If the House should permit me to carry the bill to a second reading, I propose to refer it not to a committee of the whole House, but to a select committee, giving that committee the power of examining witnesses.

He trusted the committee would thoroughly sift the question, and arrive at a judgment that would satisfy the Civil Service and conduce to the efficiency of the administration of public affairs.

After Mr. RICH had remarked that no case had been made out for disturbing the present system, Mr. DISRAELI said he must look upon the motion as virtually one to refer to a committee, proposed and sanctioned by the Government, the consideration of the whole case. [Sir George Lewis assented.] The history of superannuation is the history of spoliation; it may be summed up in a sentence—"You promised a fund, and you exacted a tax." Mr. Disraeli sneered at the Government for the smallness of their measure of administrative reform. Sir FRANCIS BARING and Sir JAMES GRAHAM denied that the act of 1834 promised a fund and imposed a tax. Mr. DISRAELI explained, that he alluded not to the act of 1834, but to earlier acts. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE and Mr. ROEBUCK spoke for the civil servants. The bill was read a first time.

On Monday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had changed his mind as to the course he would pursue. Instead of moving that the bill be referred to a select committee, he intended to move for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the whole subject, and afterwards move that the bill be referred to this committee.

#### CARLISLE AND THE CEMETERIES QUESTION.

In the House of Lords, on Friday, Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition from Carlisle, complaining of delay in the consecration of a new cemetery, praying that, when bereaved, the petitioners may have the consolation of being accompanied to the graves of their deceased relatives by their own pastors; and asking for protection to clergymen officiating in unconsecrated ground.

The Bishop of EXETER denied that Dissenters had any cause for complaint if the bishop had refused to consecrate the ground till it should be put in a fit condition, according to the laws of the Church, to be consecrated, or if a place of sepulture was set apart for those who were not members of the Church. He had heard with surprise that if a bishop refused to consecrate a burial-ground any persons fancying themselves aggrieved could apply to the Court of Queen's Bench for a *mandamus* to compel him.

Earl GRANVILLE said that, with regard to the right rev. prelate, he thought that if he was not a distinguished member of the ecclesiastical bench he would be a very eminent law lord. During the passage of the Burial Amendment Act it was suggested to the Government to insert some clause to remedy the evil which was complained of, but the Government did not feel themselves justified in giving to a Secretary of State the power of overruling the ecclesiastical law. In his opinion, some discretion was allowable in administering the law, and, so far from agreeing with the right rev. prelate, he, for his part, hoped that any future Bishop of Carlisle would be inclined to deal with the subject in a moderate way, and not to follow a small minority of his brethren.

Lord CAMPBELL said that with regard to a *mandamus*, the Court would consider the question; but if the bishop certified that the burial-ground was not in a proper state to be consecrated it would not interfere.



## THE PROPOSED MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

On the same day, Earl GRANVILLE moved the second reading of the Education Bill. The main point in the bill was the embodiment of a suggestion by Sir John Pakington, that, considering the large grants of money made for educational purposes, there ought to be a responsible department for education with a Minister in the House of Commons. By this bill it is proposed to assimilate the construction of the Committee of the Privy Council to that of the Board of Trade, the Vice-President of the Council being the responsible Minister in the House of Commons.

Lord DERBY expressed agreement in the appointment of a responsible Minister of Education; but prefers an individual Minister to a Board. He would take education entirely out of the hands of the Privy Council, would make the First Lord of the Treasury Lord President, and create a principal Minister of Public Instruction, with a subordinate officer to represent the department in that House of Parliament in which the chief should not have his seat.

Lord MONTEAGLE coincided in these views, provided only that the two new Ministers had their hearts in the subject; for no person whose heart was not in the subject, should undertake such important functions.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH argued in favour of entrusting the work to one man only. The department, he contended, ought to be separated from those political changes which affect the composition of Governments; and the man filling the department, ought, in like manner, to be of moderate opinions in politics, religion, and even as to education itself. If he held extreme opinions in religion and politics, he would not secure the co-operation of the gentry and clergy of the country; and if his opinions were extreme on education, he would be inclined to sacrifice the labour of the children of the working classes, indispensable to their families, to the object of making a literary peasantry.

Earl GREY agreed with the Earl of Ellenborough that a great fault had been committed by the Council of Education in requiring too high a standard of literary knowledge in its schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, to the detriment of qualifications of a more practical and useful kind. He approved the duties of the board being transferred to one individual; but for some years they had very inconsiderately increased the number of Parliamentary offices; many new offices had been created, while the old ones had been retained, though no duties were attached to them. In this respect, the whole system required revision.

Lord BROUGHAM rejoiced at the present proposal, and, on the whole, thought that the office should be vacated with every change of Government. The Marquis of LANSDOWNE concurred in this view, for, otherwise, questions connected with education would be perpetually arising, in which the Minister of Education might take a different view of the subject from the Government; and this would interfere with the efficiency of the establishment, and retard the progress of the very cause which it was instituted to promote. Adverting to the remarks of preceding speakers, he observed, that it would be difficult to make an inflexible rule, as to the length of schooling in agricultural districts; a matter, moreover, to be left between the Minister of Education and the poor, whose independence ought always to be considered, as they must be the best judges of their own necessities and have control over their own families.

Earl GRANVILLE explained the intention of the Government to be, that the President of the Council shall himself be responsible for the conduct of the department, and the Vice-President be appointed to act under his orders, and for him in his absence. With regard to those holding seats at the Board *ex officio*, they will not share the responsibility more than other members of the Government; but it is thought advisable to constitute such ministers as the President of the Poor-law Board, and other heads of departments, members *ex officio*, in order to facilitate reference to them. An objection had been raised to the President of the Council being the person selected to act as Minister of Instruction. But the present occupant of the office cannot see, that any practical inconvenience can arise from the arrangement. The President of the Council is not so fully employed that there can be any objection to his taking the department of Education, supposing him to be a fitting person, under his own direction.

The bill was read a second time.

## THE WENSLEYDALE PEERAGE.

The House of Lords met on Monday at two o'clock. The LORD CHANCELLOR read a letter from Lord Wensleydale, stating that he declined to attend, by his counsel, before the Committee of Privileges. The House then went into a Committee of Privileges on the patent of the Wensleydale Peerage. Mr. W. Smith, Assistant-Keeper of Records, and Mr. H. G. Sharpe, Assistant-Keeper of the Rolls, were examined, after which Lord LYNCHURST said the search for cases through the Rolls and Records had not been completed, and asked the Lord Chancellor whether he would consider that the cases already printed comprehended all the questions required for raising the argument.

The LORD CHANCELLOR could not give that assurance; Lord Lynchurst must take his own course and make out his own case.

Lord LYNCHURST stated that the Master of the Rolls declined to direct his officers to make the necessary search without an order of the House, and there had been no opportunity of obtaining that order. The Earl of DERBY believed the examination of documents would be completed by Friday next, and suggested that the committee should adjourn to that day, and then take the discussion on the evidence now before it.

Lord LYNCHURST gave notice that on Friday he should move a resolution, stating as the opinion of the committee that neither the patent to Sir J.

Parke, nor the writ of summons issued in pursuance of it, could entitle him to sit and vote in Parliament. The Earl of DERBY asked if it was the intention of any peer or of the Government to move an amendment on that resolution. Earl GRANVILLE promised that if any amendment was moved due notice should be given of it; but he must have time to consider the matter. Earl GREY stated that it was his intention at present to propose an amendment, but he required time to consider how that amendment could most conveniently be brought forward; he would, however, take care to give ample notice of any amendment which he might intend to propose. Lord BROUGHAM hoped in the interval the Government would carefully reflect whether it could not relieve the House, the Parliament, and the country from the difficulty it had raised in a manner so uncalled-for. The committee was then adjourned till Friday next, at the usual hour of meeting, five o'clock.

## IRISH CHANCERY REFORM.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, on the motion that the Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill should be read a second time,

Mr. J. FITZGERALD moved, as an amendment, that the further progress of the measure be deferred for six months. He urged various objections to the bill, and deprecated the proposal for transferring the important business and heavy arrears of the Encumbered Estates Court to the Irish Court of Chancery. He believed that no economy could result from the change, the salaries and staff to be created being quite equivalent to those extinguished, while the working of the existing machinery, for the sale of real property in Ireland, must be seriously obstructed.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. POLLARD-URQUHART, who believed that serious evils would result from the proposed interference with the operations of the Encumbered Estates Court.

Mr. DEASY generally supported the bill; while Mr. McCANN wished to see the powers of the Encumbered Estates Court extended rather than transferred. He thought that the existing machinery for the sale of estates in Ireland had worked well enough to be let alone.

Mr. ELLICE, without opposing the second reading of the bill, expressed his intention to watch its provisions narrowly. Believing that no well-founded complaints had been preferred against the Encumbered Estates Court, he was reluctant to see that tribunal abolished, except with a certainty of obtaining something better.

Mr. WHITESIDE commented upon the provisions of the measure, which he believed to be utterly unworkable. The bill was, in fact, impossible as it stood. He proceeded to remark upon the amount of patronage which the bill would place in the hands of the Government, and which he inferred to be the principal motive for its introduction.

After a good deal of discussion by Irish members, Mr. CAIRNS defended the report of the Commissioners, on which the present measure was based, and contended that the bill would extend and augment the benefits which the Encumbered Estates Court had already been enabled to effect in Ireland. He approved of the suggestion to send the measure, together with the bills brought in by Mr. Whiteside on the subject of the Irish Chancery, before a select committee.

After some further remarks, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND replied to various criticisms that had been offered during the debate, and consented to refer his bill to a select committee, though objecting to present it in conjunction with Mr. Whiteside's measures.

The amendment was withdrawn after a brief conversation, and the bill read a second time and ordered to be referred to a committee upstairs.

## THE CRIMEAN COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

On Thursday, Mr. LAYARD gave notice of the following motion for Thursday, the 28th instant:—

That this House has observed with regret, that those officers whose conduct in their respective departments has been shown by the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the supplies of the British army in the Crimea, to have occasioned great and unnecessary sufferings and losses in that army, have received honours and rewards, or have been appointed to, and are still holding, responsible offices in the public service.

Mr. F. PEEL, in reply to Mr. PALK, stated that in the course of the evening he should lay on the table the replies of Lord Lucan and Lord Cardigan to the statements affecting them in the report of the Crimean Commissioners. The reply of General Airey was not yet ready.

On Friday night, Mr. LAYARD said that he found the 28th would be an inconvenient day. Would the Government give him one? Lord PALMERSTON answered, that the appeal would be fair if independent members had only one instead of two days. He begged to recommend his honourable friend—as he trusted he might call him—"to try his luck again."

Lord PANMURE, on Friday, laid on the table two letters, addressed to him by the Earl of Cardigan and Lord Lucan, in reference to the report of the Government Commission of Inquiry in the Crimea, and moved that they be printed.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Pellatt asked Lord Palmerston whether the recent edict of the Sultan, granting civil and religious liberty to all his subjects, went to abolish the penalty of death upon a Mussulman becoming a Christian; and, if not, whether the Government would exert its diplomatic influence to repeal that law? Lord Palmerston answered that a telegraphic communication had been received from Constantinople, to the effect that such a treaty had been signed, but it had not reached this country. Her Majesty's Government had for many years earnestly urged upon the Ottoman Government the abolition of the penalty of death in the cases referred to, and if that subject did not form part of the treaty, no exertion should be wanting to

induce the Porte to assent to their wishes. At the same time he reminded the House that it was difficult to deal with the religious opinions and prejudices of foreign countries.

Some resistance was offered, by Mr. R. Phillimore and Mr. Liddell, on Thursday, to Mr. J. Ferguson's motion for leave to bring in a bill for the appropriation of the next vacant canonry in Carlisle Cathedral to the augmentation of certain livings in that city. But, though it had been urged that the principle would apply universally, Mr. Gladstone avowed himself as not unfavourable to its more general application, under due limitation; and without further opposition, leave was given, and the bill brought in and read the first time.

Lord EGLINTON, in the Lords, on Friday, called attention to the dial of the clock tower of the new Houses of Parliament, and asked if all the dials were to be marked with such hieroglyphics as the one put up, as in that case the public would not be much the wiser as to the time of day; he hoped the figures would be made modern and intelligible, instead of being mediæval, and much the reverse. He had also heard that the tower had been built without providing the means of raising the clock and bells; the public, therefore, were likely to have a dial that could not be read, a clock that would not go, and bells that could not be rung.

In reply to Mr. Warner, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that the commission appointed last year to inquire into the decimal system of coinage had still the subject under their consideration.

Sir G. C. Lewis, in reply to Mr. Scholefield, promised to apply for preventive powers, if he found, as stated, that a Fire Insurance office in Paris was holding out to English insurers the temptation of evading the duty.

Mr. Labouchere, in answer to Mr. Baxter, stated, that tenders were to be received for monthly communication between this country and Australia, half the expense to be borne by the Government and half by the colony; the steamers to call at Melbourne and Sydney, with branch communications to Adelaide, Tasmania, and New Zealand.

Lord Palmerston, in answer to Mr. Ewart, who inquired, "whether it will be lawful to despatch British ships with cargoes to Russian ports during the armistice, and, in that case, will articles contraband of war, &c., be exempt from such permission?" stated, that he would strongly recommend persons engaged in such business to wait until the terms of the armistice were seen.

Lord Ebrington presented a petition from the inhabitants of Torrington, setting forth the refusal of the Bishop of Exeter to consecrate part of their new cemetery, and praying that consecration may be made compulsory, upon production to the bishop of a certificate that a burial-ground is in a fit state for interments.

The House of Commons Offices Bill and the Metropolitan Police Bill, were read the second time in the Lords on Friday. While the latter was under consideration, Lord Campbell proposed to take the police magistrates, after appointment, out of the hands of the Secretary of State, and place them under the supervision of a Committee of the Judges; but Lord Panmure, from his experience in the Home-office, deprecated such a change as unnecessary and ill-advised. On Monday, both bills went through committee.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, replying to Mr. Layard, Mr. F. Peel explained the principles on which the brevet promotions had been allotted among the officers of different divisions who were engaged in the attack upon the Redan, and other operations connected with the capture of Sebastopol on September 8.

In answer to Mr. Lushington, Mr. Lowe announced that a bill was in preparation designed to secure a regular and comprehensive series of returns relating to agricultural statistics.

Mr. F. Peel, in reply to a question from Mr. Ewart, stated that steps were being taken to increase the efficiency and improve the organisation of the staff of the British army.

On the motion of Sir G. Grey, a committee has been appointed to inquire into the present constitution of the Ecclesiastical Commission in England, into the working of the acts by which its existence had been prolonged, and into the expediency of consolidating with it the Church Building Commission.

The first business in the House of Commons on Friday was to receive, in due form, from the hands of the sheriffs, the petition of the Lord Mayor, aldermen, and Common Council of the City of London, praying that all persons now required to take the oath of abjuration may be relieved from an obligation so absurd. On Monday, Mr. M. Gibson gave notice that on Friday next he would move for a committee of the whole House, with a view to bring in a bill to repeal the oath of abjuration.

On Monday, the Earl of Hardwicke made some inquiry respecting the Kars papers, but obtained no satisfactory reply. Earl Granville would ask the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Heywood has given notice of a motion for (to-morrow) the 21st inst., for an Address to the Crown to withhold consent to the new statutes of Exeter College, Oxford, which impose fresh religious tests on candidates for fellowships.

On Monday, Lord Brougham stated that he had been reported to give notice that he should, upon Friday next, introduce a motion on the subject of the appointment of a Minister of Justice. This was an error. His motion related to the subject of judicial statistics, and he proposed to bring it forward upon Friday week.

Mr. William B. Scott has been elected chief surveyor of St. Pancras, at 400*l.* a year.



## MEMORIAL TO THE LATE JOSEPH HUME.

On Saturday afternoon, a general meeting of the admirers of the late Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., was held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, for the purpose of adopting the necessary measures for erecting some monument to his memory. The Earl Fortescue presided. Lord Panmure moved the first resolution, which was as follows: "That the disinterested services of Mr. Hume for above forty years in the House of Commons, his successful efforts to check the waste of public money his constant support of all measures conducive to the spread of moral and intellectual improvement, and his unvarying advocacy of constitutional liberty, claim a lasting record of the gratitude of his countrymen." He had the honour of being born in the same county as Mr. Hume, and he remembered that when that gentleman first presented himself to the electors of the Montrose burghs, they were so struck with the soundness of his political principles that they at once returned him as their representative. (Hear, hear.) It was not as a party man that he supported this resolution, but he supported it because Mr. Hume was a public benefactor, unactuated by the hope of any reward which his Sovereign or the Government could confer upon him. Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., M.P., seconded the resolution. The Right Honourable Baronet said he had sat with Mr. Hume in the House of Commons twenty-five years, and knew that his career had been one of honour, industry, and integrity. Mr. Wall, Secretary to the Working Men's Association, supported the resolution, which was unanimously adopted. The Duke of Somerset bore testimony to the indefatigable exertions, the unflinching energy, and the imperturbable good temper of Mr. Hume. Of him it might be said, as it had been said of another statesman, "He gained no pension, and he lost no friend." His Grace concluded by moving the following resolution: "That a subscription be, therefore, opened for the erection of some public memorial in honour of Mr. Hume." Mr. Thorneley, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was at once agreed to. On the motion of Mr. E. Ellice, M.P., seconded by Lord Hatherton, it was agreed that the subscription should be limited to sums not exceeding 10*l.* from each subscriber. The Earl Granville, Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., Lord Ebrington, M.P., and other gentlemen, having addressed the meeting, a committee was appointed to carry out its objects. The following, among other subscriptions, were announced: The Duke of Bedford, 10*l.*; Marquis of Breadalbane, 10*l.*; Lord Broughton, 10*l.*; Lord John Russell, 10*l.*; Earl of Radnor, 10*l.*; Marquis of Westminster, 10*l.*; Lord Hatherton, 10*l.*; Mr. R. A. Slaney, 5*l.*; Lord Panmure, 10*l.*; Earl Fortescue, 10*l.*; Right Hon. E. Ellice, M.P., 10*l.*; Mr. H. C. Langston, M.P., 10*l.*; Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., 5*l.*; Sir J. Walmsley, M.P., 5*l.*; Mr. Ewart, M.P., 10*l.*; Duke of Somerset, 10*l.*; Mr. Brotherton, M.P., 5*l.*; Right Hon. Sir D. Dundas, 5*l.*; Mr. Thorneley, M.P., 5*l.* A vote of thanks to the noble chairman closed the proceedings.

## Postscript.

## YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

## MINISTERS' MONEY (IRELAND).

In the House of Commons yesterday evening, Mr. FAGAN moved that the House should resolve itself into committee, with the view of repealing an act introduced by Sir J. Young, and passed in 1854, to commute the tax called ministers' money in eight corporate towns in Ireland. The effect of Sir J. Young's act had been to sow the seeds of discord in all the towns where the tax was levied, by making the corporations the collectors of the tax, together with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. He (Mr. Fagan) declared that the act of last year, instead of being a compromise, was an aggravation of the evil. So much was this felt in Ireland, that the town councils had refused to collect the tax, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had not, up to the present time, exercised their power. The whole Protestant community, men of strong political feeling, and the Protestant portion of the Town-council especially, were unanimous in favour of the abolition of the tax. He held that it was not inconsistent with the Church Temporalities Act to transfer this payment to the funds of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Then as to the capability of those funds to bear this additional demand upon them, it should be remembered that their revenue amounted to 100,000*l.* a year, and was annually increasing, and though there had been a decrease in the last year, they had still a surplus of 12,000*l.* But beyond this, if the commission realised the Church property in their hands, by converting it into perpetuities, they would have something like 600,000*l.* in their hands. There could be no question, then, that they had ample means to meet this additional demand upon them.

Mr. HORSMAN confessed that the act alluded to had worked unsatisfactorily, and consented to the introduction of the bill, under reservation of the right to offer any criticisms upon its details at a future stage.

Mr. NAPIER inveighed against the conduct of the Government in allowing vexatious questions to be kept open by bills brought forward by private members, without attempting themselves to arrive at any definite solution of the subject.

Mr. MEAGHER and Lord NAAS having spoken, Lord PALMERSTON defended the course adopted by the Government, contending that it was an act of

proper courtesy to the supporters of the bill to allow it to be introduced and discussed.

Lord J. RUSSELL suggested that the terms of the resolution should be changed, inasmuch as they seemed to pledge the House to a definite conclusion, and that leave should simply be asked to bring in a bill on the subject of ministers' money. He confessed that he had hoped the settlement effected by Sir John Young's bill would have been satisfactory, and was sorry to hear that it was not; but if that was the opinion of the Government, it was their duty to propose whatever amendment they thought the act of 1854 required.

Mr. MAGUIRE said that Sir J. Young had acted wilfully in regard to the act of 1854, against which every one of the corporations affected by it had protested. The only settlement of this question that would be satisfactory in Ireland was that the stipends of these Protestant clergymen should be paid out of the Consolidated Fund.

Mr. A. BLACK said he should not do his duty to the city he represented if, when he found that a measure was about to be introduced to relieve eight cities in Ireland from a tax of this sort, he did not say that there were two cities in Scotland which were subjected to a similar tax, and Edinburgh had an annuity tax which he hoped would also be repealed if this impost was removed; for he thought what was good for Ireland was equally good for Scotland. (Hear.)

The motion was agreed to, and leave given to bring in a bill founded on it.

In the House of Lords yesterday, Earl GREY gave notice that on Friday, in the Committee of Privileges upon the Wensleydale Peerage, he should move, as an amendment to the resolution announced by Lord Lyndhurst, that, in consideration of the strong opinions entertained among professional authorities respecting the legality of the act, the patent granted to Baron Parke should be recognised, and his lordship admitted to a place among the peers, but that measures should be taken to prevent the proceeding from being drawn into a precedent.

The Earl of DERBY gave notice that on Thursday he would put a question to the Government, with a view to ascertain from them the respective duties and responsibilities attaching to the offices of Secretary of State for War, and the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Forces. He also should move for the production of any documents by which the respective duties of these offices were limited and defined.

Some routine business was transacted, and their lordships adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

In the House of Commons, replying to questions from Lord W. GRAHAM and Colonel NORTH, Mr. F. PERL stated that Sir J. McNeill's report had been communicated without any unnecessary delay to the authorities at the Horse Guards, and that the Government had no additional facts or details on the subject which they considered it requisite to publish.

Mr. ROEBUCK presented a petition, signed by 10,000 of Her Majesty's civil servants, praying for an alteration in the scale of allowances, and gave notice that he would move that the petition be referred to the committee which was about to be appointed.

Sir C. NAPIER gave notice that, on the 4th of March, he would move for a select committee to inquire into the operations of the British Baltic fleet in 1854 and 1855.

In answer to Mr. H. BAILLIE, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the Bank Charter Act would be renewed unless the governors of that establishment expressed some wish to the contrary.

Mr. MACKINNON obtained the appointment of a select committee to consider the inconvenience now felt in the country from the want of equitable tribunals, by whose means any differences between masters and operatives might be satisfactorily adjusted; and also to ascertain whether the Conseils des Prud'hommes in France have answered the purpose for which they were established.

Mr. L. KING proposed as a resolution that an edition of the Statutes at Large should be prepared for the use of that House by the clerk of Parliament, which should include all the public statutes or parts of statutes still in force, omitting all the statutes or parts of statutes which have expired or been repealed. The motion was seconded by Mr. EWART. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL hoped that the resolution would not be pressed. The expurgation of the statute-book was much too vast and onerous a duty to be lightly assigned to a single person, whose time, moreover, was already much occupied. Sir F. KELLY, upon similar grounds, also opposed the motion. Mr. R. PHILLIMORE suggested an amendment by which the preparation of a new edition of the statute-book should be enjoined without particularising the executant into whose hands the task was to be assigned. This amendment was supported by Mr. M. CHAMBERS, and accepted by Mr. L. KING, and the House then divided on the motion so modified. Ayes, 63; Noes, 164—101. The motion was consequently negatived.

Mr. G. H. MOORE obtained leave to introduce a bill providing compensation for tenants on account of improvements in the lands they may have occupied in Ireland.

Mr. DUNLOP also obtained leave to introduce two bills, one to render reformatory and industrial schools in Scotland more available for the benefit of vagrant children; and another for constituting all legally qualified persons in Scotland commissioners of supply without the necessity of their being so nominated in any act of supply.

Mr. MONSELL obtained leave to bring in a bill to extinguish certain rights of way, and stop up certain paths and roads near the camps at Aldershot.

On the motion of Sir G. GREY, the Civil Service

Superannuation Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

The House adjourned at a quarter to nine o'clock.

## THE PEACE CONFERENCES.

The Emperor received on Monday several of the plenipotentiaries to the Conferences which are about to be opened at Paris.

Count Orloff was in Brussels on Monday, and is expected at Paris to-morrow.

Monday is the day on which the Conferences are expected to open. In the evening of the opening day there will be a grand concert at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. All the plenipotentiaries now in Paris were invited to a soiree at Count Walewski's yesterday evening.

The *Pays* suggests that it may perhaps not be thought essential to require from Russia such an extreme measure as the destruction of Nicolaieff, and that it would suffice to interdict Russia from building in the arsenal of Nicolaieff, any ship, frigate, or vessel of war of any kind. The *Pays* also hints that the payment to Turkey of the expenses of the war may be compounded for by a "rectification" of the Asiatic frontier.

## DESTRUCTION OF FORT NICHOLAS.

In a despatch, dated Feb. 4, General Codrington describes the blowing up of Fort Nicholas, which had remained almost intact since the Russians evacuated the south side of Sebastopol. The work was accomplished by the French, and the day was beautifully clear. The mines were fired at 1 P.M.—

The scene and feeling of expectation (says the General), were of great interest, for another tangible proof of power and success was to take place, and 106,000*lbs.* of powder were in the several mines.

At the hour named, a burst of smoke, dark and thick, rolled from our left of the building; it was followed by another; the heavy sound arrived, the stones were shot into the air and into the sea; the explosions of the extreme right and the centre mingled at little intervals into one drifting cloud, which veiled the destruction below.

The light of the sun played beautifully on the mass of smoke of which the lower part lay long and heavily on its victim. The breeze passing it away over the remains of the town, showed that a low line of ruin was all that remained of the pride of Fort Nicholas, and one standing menace of the harbour lay buried under its waters.

The state of the docks has been given in detail in my letters. They are all destroyed, whilst the earth surrounding them is shaken into cracks: basin, docks, masses of broken granite, capstans, gates, beams of iron, and of timber, are tumbled into one mass of destruction.

Yesterday morning, Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert and a party of ladies, and attended also by Lord Panmure, visited the Arsenal at Woolwich, for the purpose of inspecting the trophies brought from Sebastopol, by the Bucephalus.

The Court, it is expected, will return to Windsor Castle, for the Easter vacation, a week earlier than usual—about the 19th proximo—when the Princess Royal will receive the rite of confirmation.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday afternoon at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. The whole of the Ministers were present with the exception of the Earl of Clarendon. The Council sat two hours and a quarter.

The total army estimates of the year 1856-7 amount to 34,998,504*l.* Last year they were 28,670,497*l.*, showing a total increase for the year 1856-7 of 6,328,007*l.*

It appears from information obtained by the police that the poor child, discovered so horribly mutilated in the cellar of the house, No. 18, Linton-street, is the offspring (illegitimately) of the murderess Celestine Somner.

The Leominster election has terminated in the return of Mr. Hardy, the Conservative, by a majority of 179 against 101.

The inquest on the body of Mr. Sadleir was commenced yesterday. The principal evidence given was that of Mr. Norris, a solicitor of Bedford-row, who stated that for some days past Mr. Sadleir had appeared haggard and careworn. "He seemed to be quite borne down during the last few days by the extent of his business, and particularly by some pecuniary losses he sustained last week, and which came upon him suddenly. He talked about these affairs to me on Saturday night, but said nothing that induced me to anticipate any such thing as has happened. He was restless, and not in his usual temperament. I had never seen him in the same state before. Hitherto he was always cool and collected." The inquiry was adjourned to Monday next, for the production of some letters written by the deceased shortly before he left his house for the last time.

Petitions have been adopted in various parts of France, praying that the infant to which the Empress will shortly give birth, be named, if a prince, King of Algeria.

The Russian *Gazette de l'Académie* announces the departure of Colonel Lake and Captain Thompson from Tiflis to St. Petersburg, and the inability of General Williams to leave the former city by reason of illness.

## MARK-LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat in to-day's market was very moderate. For most kinds the demand ruled steady, and Monday's prices were well supported. The general condition of the samples was by no means fine. Foreign wheat, the show of which was tolerably good, moved off slowly, yet the quotations were well supported. Barley and malt came slowly to hand. The demand for most kinds was inactive, at the late decline in value. The oat trade was less active, at Monday's quotations. Beans, peas, and flour sold slowly. No change in prices.



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## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1856.

## SUMMARY.

WITH one exception, all the plenipotentiaries are now assembled in Paris, preparatory to the opening of the Congress on Monday next. The Turkish Envoy from Constantinople is expected on Friday. Of course we must wait the opening of this important diplomatic assembly ere anything trustworthy can be known as to the state of the negotiations, though the character of the two Russian representatives—Count Orloff, a friend of internal development in preference to external aggression, and Baron Brunow, who has always leaned to the English Alliance—buoys up the hope of a favourable issue. According to report, Russia has conceded the demands of the Western Powers, not to rebuild Bomarsund and to admit consuls to her ports in the Euxine; but declines to dismantle Nicholaieff. There have, it is said, been other demands, but their nature has not oozed out. Still it is worthy of note, that warlike preparations continue on both sides of the Channel. The Emperor of the French has just called out the annual contingent of 140,000 men, and extraordinary activity is displayed in our dockyards and arsenals.

But the preparations of Government point to the West as well as the East. Several regiments, it seems, are in preparation to leave for North America, and all the home regiments have received notice to hold themselves in readiness for that destination. At Southampton, hundreds of workmen are employed night and day in fitting up troop ships to be ready by the 2nd of March. Is Government, then, after all, afraid of a rupture with the United States, or desirous of provoking one by this irritating display of physical force? If so, Mr. Roebuck did not speak too early when, on Friday night, he protested against embroiling this country with the States for the sake of shielding Mr. Crampton or upholding the American policy of Lord Palmerston. We confess these preparations of our Government, coupled with the tone of American statesmen in reference to the Nicaraguan dispute, excite our apprehension, notwithstanding the Premier's assurances that the correspondence is carried on in a friendly spirit. No one desires to condemn the conduct of our Government till there are adequate means for forming a right conclusion, but we trust the people of England will insist that the several points of difference with the American Union shall no longer be left open to breed ill-feeling and animosity, but at once put in a train for final settlement.

Our present position of costly preparation is vividly called to mind by two circumstances affecting our finances. Another little bill has just been presented—the Army Estimates for 1856-7, which amount to a grand total of 34,998,504—exceeding by six millions odd those of last year, and more than double the entire cost of the three services in time of peace! The House of Commons will be called upon to provide for a military force of not less than 246,716 men. Englishmen may well look with anxiety to the results of the Paris Peace Congress! The second event that excites attention is the issuing of conditions for another loan by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The smallness of the amount, five millions, together with the funding of three millions of Exchequer Bills, has begotten the impression that this is only the first financial operation of the year, and that a further loan of something less than twenty millions will hereafter be needed. We really pity the fate of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose duty it will be to propose this session the annual financial statement!

At present, however, Ministers have more

urgent business on their hands. The Counties and Boroughs Police Bill has aroused so strong an expression of opposition in the corporations of our large towns, such as Leeds, Sheffield, and Manchester, that the Home Secretary has felt it necessary to postpone the second reading for a fortnight, and thus give time for objectors to organise. The Local Dues on Shipping Bill is being treated after a similar fashion, and is likely to share a similar fate. In this instance vested interests have been aroused in Liverpool, Newcastle, Dover, and other ports, and have raised the cry of spoliation. They are being assisted by the Court of Common Council, who yesterday adopted a petition to Parliament declaring that the abrogation of these dues without compensation was a violation of the rights of property and a departure from all precedent. We fear these powerful interests will prove too strong for Mr. Lowe and his useful measure of mercantile reform.

While the Commons are busy discussing "practical measures"—Opposition rivalling Ministers in taking the initiative—the Upper Branch of the Legislature is still waiting for some means of escape from its quarrel with the Royal prerogative. After much disputing in a Committee of Privileges, and the refusal of Lord Wensleydale to appear by counsel before their Lordships, Lord Lyndhurst proposes to bring the matter to an issue on Friday next, by moving a resolution in committee, that by the present patent, the new peer is not entitled to sit in Parliament. On this Earl Grey is to move a series of resolutions, as an amendment, that the patent granted to Baron Parke shall be recognised, but that measures shall be taken to prevent the proceeding from being drawn into a precedent.

On Friday Lord Granville explained the provisions of the new bill for creating an educational department. The Committee of Council is to be assimilated to the Board of Trade, being presided over as now by the President of the Council, and represented in the House of Commons by a Vice-President. The proceedings of the new Board will thus be brought directly under the cognizance of Parliament, and the anomalous constitution of the Committee of Council brought within strictly legal bounds. The bill has already passed their Lordships' house, and awaits the consideration of the Commons. When under discussion, it is desirable that the views of Ministers on the subject of educational grants and supervision should be distinctly elicited. The country ought to know whether the present system of grants is to be maintained and extended.

The Carlisle cemeteries grievance, to which we have more than once adverted, has also been under discussion in the House of Lords, and has enabled the Bishop of Exeter to give vent to his narrow notions on the subject of interments and consecration, and to Lord Granville to warn the small minority of the Episcopal Bench who sympathise with the views of Dr. Philpotts, that if reason is disregarded, legislation may be called into play. At Carlisle, the death of the Bishop has solved all difficulties. By the appointment of the Hon. and Rev. Montagu Villiers to succeed Dr. Percy, Lord Palmerston has done honour to an Evangelical and liberal pastor of the metropolis, and secured for the Episcopalians of the "fair city" a Christian bishop, who is likely to avoid the intolerance of his predecessor, and refrain from carrying the firebrand of bigotry as well to the last resting-place of the dead, as among the abodes of the living.

Though warlike operations are suspended, news from the East marks the rapid progress of revolution. While the Peace Congress is preparing to meet, the Allies have completed the demolition of Sebastopol Proper by blowing up the great Fort St. Nicholas, with its 192 guns, which guarded the southern entrance to the Russian arsenal. Let us hope that with the last symbol of Russian aggression in these regions has perished the policy which upreared it! If the Emperor Alexander II. has resolved from henceforth to develop the immense resources of his country in preference to foreign aggrandisement, we shall have better security for the tranquillity of Europe than any number of "points" can give. The rapid assimilation of Turkey to the European system is shown by a recent unprecedented event in the history of Islamism—the presence of the Sultan, at balls given respectively by the English and French Ambassadors at Constantinople.

Our last topic is the most cheering of the week's news. The nine weeks' struggle for the Speakership of the Washington House of Representatives, has terminated in the triumph of Mr. Banks, the Free-Soil candidate. After vain efforts to shake the serried ranks of the Northern Republicans, the partisans of President Pierce and slavery at length consented to a plurality of votes. Mr. Banks, the anti-slavery representative of Massachusetts, was chosen Speaker by a majority of three over Mr. Aikin, a South Carolinian, and a

large slaveholder. The result is hailed as the first triumph ever achieved by the Anti-slavery party in the National Congress, and as a crisis in the history of this great question. From this recent and remarkable exhibition of firmness it is believed that the northern representatives, who constitute a large majority, will remain true to their free-soil principles, and prevent the adoption of any further measures having a pro-slavery tendency.

## NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ANOTHER week of quiet, unostentatious, legislative work! The House seems a little puzzled with its own virtue—and, like a man who has stepped out of his way to do an extraordinary act of beneficence, is half inclined to regard the unusual step as one calling for apology. In the profligate reign of the Second Charles, and, we are inclined to think, much later, gentlemen who boasted of their connexion with the fashionable world, would have blushed to acknowledge what, nevertheless, they had solemnly pledged themselves to cherish with religious assiduity, a hearty attachment to their own wives. Something analogous to this is the frame of mind with which the House of Commons contemplates its steady pursuit of business at so early a period of the session. It is so extraordinary as to wear the semblance of romance. It is regarded very much in the light of a joke. It seems as though we were setting at nought all Parliamentary precedent. A spasmodic fit of industry after Whitsuntide is quite *en règle*—but continuous sobriety, and systematic, persistent labour through the month of February, are such a deviation from the traditional habits of the House, that many men can hardly reconcile them with the obligations of etiquette. We earnestly hope that the rewards of virtue will begin to be realised, before the external necessity which compels the exercise of it has passed away—and that abstinence from vain talk, party discussions, and the contests of "ins" and "outs," may reveal its solid advantages in the shape of work actually done, and a session materially shortened, before idleness and inattention have opportunity to get head.

Two motions of some importance stood on the notice paper for Wednesday last. The first had reference to the Marquis of Blandford's Bill for the formation of new parishes. It provides for the subdivision of unwieldy parishes into parochial districts, for the purpose of Church endowment. His lordship urged the second reading of his bill, in a speech occupying a full hour and a half in delivery. He is not an impressive speaker, albeit fluent and earnest. His manner is dry, and his voice without modulation. His personal presence, moreover, verges towards insignificance—he being boyish in appearance, and short in stature. But we have heard him to much greater advantage than on Wednesday last, when the thinness of the House, and the want of interest displayed by those few members who were present, evidently damped his spirit. He went through his task as a duty which he durst not shrink from performing, rather than as an engagement which enthusiasm made it easy to fulfil. Conscious how entirely the merits of his proposal would depend on the details by which it was to be carried into effect, he offered, if the second reading of the bill were assented to, to send it to a select committee up stairs, for a more searching and mature consideration of its clauses. The Government, on this consideration, assented to the principle of the measure, and it was read a second time without a division.

On the next order of the day, there was much greater stir. It was for the second reading of Sir George Grey's Police (Borough and Counties) Bill, a measure the centralising tendency of which has excited the strong opposition of municipal bodies throughout the kingdom. Considering the importance of the bill, and the encroachment upon local independence and management, which it aims to establish, it was being pressed forward with unconscionable haste, and we were not surprised to find a crowd of municipal officers in the lobby whose object was a postponement of the second reading for a fortnight, to give time to town councils throughout the kingdom to master all the provisions of the measure, and see their bearings. So lively was the commotion outside, that one member, in private conversation with another, alluded to it as a "hippomane," or "raging humour in mares" (mayors). Mr. Hadfield was the mouthpiece of the discontented on this occasion. He gave good reasons for asking the postponement of this stage of the bill for a fortnight—and as he was well supported in this reasonable demand by several members on both sides of the House, Sir George Grey felt himself obliged to acquiesce, and adjourn the second reading to this day week.

Thursday continues, as yet, an independent member's day—i.e., it is not wholly engrossed by Government business, notices of motion having priority over the orders of the day. The night was mainly consecrated to the legal profession. Sir Fitzroy Kelly, seconded by Lord Stanley, ob-



tained leave to bring in two bills—one to consolidate the law relating to offences against the person; the other to effect the same useful object in regard to bills of exchange and promissory notes. This attempt—not, it is true, the first which has been made—to consolidate the statute law, subject by subject, until the still more useful and important work of codification shall become manageable, appeared to meet with pretty general approval—the Attorney-General being the only member who ridiculed as absurd what the Home Secretary praised as wise, and cordially supported. The remainder of the evening was taken up in discussing a motion of Sir John Shelley relating to the state of the judicial bench in Ireland. It seems that some of the judges in the sister isle, although incapacitated by age and infirmity for the performance of their duties, and compelled to employ substitutes at the public expense, are far from convinced that it would be decorous in them to resign their posts. It came out that Baron Pennefather is stone blind, and Justices Lefroy and Torrens however able as lawyers, were unfitted by age and feebleness for the efficient discharge of their functions. The motion called for returns which would prove these allegations. Mr. Napier, who is himself deaf, was moved with violent indignation at the indecency of these inquiries, and intimated that Ministers were accessory to this attack on the judges. The insinuation was repelled by Sir George Grey and Lord Palmerston. No doubt, Sir John Shelley brought forward his very reasonable motion on independent grounds—but as little doubt prevailed that the honourable baronet did so with a full knowledge that he was serving a purpose much desired by the Government. There were two divisions on the motion, in each of which the honourable member for Westminster was successful.

The earlier part of Friday evening, as is not unfrequently the case, was far more animated than we have been accustomed to of late. The occasion was the usual motion of adjournment to Monday. The subject was, once more, the diplomatic squabble with America—the speakers were Mr. Roebuck and Lord Palmerston. Mr. Roebuck, in a series of short, sharp, ringing sentences, accused the Premier of having given a representation of the question in dispute between Great Britain and the United States, inconsistent with facts which had come out in evidence on the trial of the recruiting agent, Mr. Hertz. From this evidence, Mr. Roebuck made out the complicity of Mr. Crampton, our Minister at Washington, in attempts which had been made to evade the American laws of neutrality, for which he considered that no apology had been made, and which, he thought, entitled the Cabinet at Washington to insist on Mr. Crampton's recall. Mr. Roebuck deprecated in emphatic terms being drifted into a war with brothers, as a consequence of equivocal proceedings on the part of the British Government, and it was, he said, with a view to unmask the Government, and to repudiate any Parliamentary complicity in its transactions, that he moved, as an amendment on the formal motion of adjournment, the production of all the correspondence that had passed between the two Cabinets on the subject of Mr. Crampton's conduct. Lord Palmerston replied with unusual excitement. The correspondence, he said, was not yet complete, and would not be laid on the table of the House, until it was so. He attributed the evidence on which Mr. Roebuck relied, to a conspiracy of individuals in the United States, instigated by Russia, and he accused Mr. Roebuck of holding a brief from the antagonist of his country. Mr. Disraeli, in tame and hesitating accents, deprecated the motion as premature, but vindicated the right of every member of the House to criticise the foreign policy of the Government, however distasteful it might be to men in power. The amendment was not pressed. The remainder of the night's proceedings were as dull as could be wished. The revenue estimates passed through committee, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as a speaker, one of the slowest of waggons, introduced a measure to amend the acts relating to superannuation in the civil service, the detailed provisions of which he proposed to remit to a Select Committee, with powers to examine witnesses and send for papers.

Monday night was devoted to a discussion of the bill of the Solicitor-General for Ireland for reforming the Irish Chancery Court, and for transferring to it the jurisdiction of the Encumbered Estates Court. A very interesting and remarkably able debate ensued, in which Mr. Cairns, the member for Belfast, particularly distinguished himself. We had gone down to the House with a bad opinion of the bill as a joint concoction of lawyers hungry for larger fees—but we must say that the statements of Mr. Cairns, and the arguments of Mr. Fitzgerald, silenced our objections to the measure. It was read a second time without a division, and is to be sent to a committee upstairs.

Last night we had several questions successively before us—to only one of which we shall now advert—namely, a bill for the abolition of Ministers' Money in Ireland, introduced by Mr. Fagan. Government assented to the introduction of the measure, without holding out the least hope of supporting it through its further stages—for which evasory conduct, they received reprehension from all parties.

#### ROEBUCK AND SEWARD.

ONE of the chieftains of English Radicalism, and the chieftain of that noblest of American parties which takes the name of Republican, have spoken in the senate of their respective countries on the pending differences. Mr. Roebuck is not satisfied that Lord Palmerston has done all that should have been done to avert or close the dispute. Mr. Seward, admitting the possibility of actual rupture, makes an eloquent appeal to the statesmen of his own and of the mother country, to restrain the threatening deluge of human passion. It is a hopeful coincidence, that while Lord Palmerston rests his refusal of information on the ground that our proposal to arbitrate is still open, Mr. Seward hints at arbitration as the natural and sufficient solution of the major difficulty. It is also cheering to observe that, while the Americans address themselves to the Nicaraguan question, our English politicians fasten on the Enlistment affair. It is all but certain that the American feeling in the Senate will compel the President to accept of arbitration—quite certain that English feeling will not permit a quarrel in defence of Mr. Crampton; and that if Lord Palmerston be convicted of the irritating conduct attributed to him by Mr. Clayton, not even a third campaign with Russia can prolong his dictatorship. Pending further information, we submit to the reader one or two considerations supplementary to those of last week. The brevity with which they are expressed may chance to commend them to reflective minds.

First,—what is the true theory of international action? Is the assertion of abstract right an absolute duty,—or is not the duty dependent on modifying circumstances? There are certain rights which a man may not surrender, because they involve obligations to others. But that which is a man's own simply to enjoy, he may retain or throw up as he pleases. A guardian is morally bound to defend the property of the ward—but the ward, on coming of age, may prefer surrender to litigation. Nations may, in like manner, give up rightful possessions, rather than defend them by war, supposing that no public principle is outraged by the claim, and no public interest betrayed by the surrender. A free civilized people may not lawfully abandon to a barbarous despotism a coveted territory—but to a people equally civilized with that possession, the surrender may surely be made rather than incur the temporary prevalence of barbarism in the form of war.

Accepting this as the "higher law" of Christian statesmanship, we have to inquire whether the United States, in prosecuting their claim to Nicaragua—or rather, in objecting to our retention—are violating public law, and threatening great human interests. We must take care to distinguish between the buccaneers, or filibusters, who invade our supposed territory from across the American frontier, and the Government, which distinctly repudiates responsibility for those incursions. We must remember that it is not attempted to supplant our own Government by that of the States, but simply to restore the isthmus to its natural neutrality. And we must ask ourselves whether, in the event of American influence ultimately superseding our own over the rulers of Central America, there would be any loss to humanity at large.

If it clearly appear that necessity is laid upon us—as even Mr. Seward seems to think it *might* be laid upon the States—to arm in defence of this or that interpretation of a treaty, we should not the worse discharge that awful obligation by the seriousness of our deliberation. But meanwhile, should we not reprobate, with indignant severity, as no less unreasonable than mischievous, language which assumes that honour leaves no alter native but that of submission to the decree of a mediator or to the chances of conflict?

#### LIBERTY OR COMPULSION.

If any of our readers visited the Oriental Exhibition on view some time since at Hyde Park Corner, they will remember to have been struck by the contrast in dress and attitude of the groups of figures representing respectively the Courts of the late and the present Sultans. Here sat Mahmoud, on a throne of barbaric state, habited in robes of more than feminine amplitude, laden with jewels, capped by a turban of monstrous dimensions, and surrounded by counsellors, warriors, and eunuchs, grotesquely gorgeous and repulsive. There stood Abdul-Medjid, in the simple garb of an European military officer, the graceful fez upon his head, and only a star upon

his breast to distinguish him from his advisers and attendants. In other compartments of the exhibition were representatives of the extinct Janissaries, whose inverted kettle was the tocsin of worse than Prætorian revolt—of the new Redif, or regular soldiery—and of the Bashi-Bazouks, or other irregular and ragged legionaries of the Crescent. The Churches of Turkey in Europe had also their types—the proud and bigoted Ulema, the no less bigoted but powerless Greek or Armenian. The street life and the domestic life of Stamboul were seen in the coffee-house and the bath-room, in the latticed harem, and the curtained araba, a harem on wheels. In the court and the army—the thoughtful observer would remark—there had been innovation, perhaps improvement; in all else the Turkey of to-day was much like the Turkey of tradition and romance; the vanquished Janissaries seemed to mock at the present as well as to commemorate the past of that misplaced and anomalous empire.

With mingled apprehension and amusement we read of the efforts of Western diplomacy, and of Western religious zeal to extend and consolidate the changes symbolised by the contrasts to which we have alluded. The fourth of the five points which are to knit up afresh the torn web of European order, provides for the establishment of religious equality among all classes of the Sultan's subjects. But it is rather at Constantinople than at Paris that this fourth point must be settled. The assent of the Divan, not that of the Czar, is the object to be attained. The abolition of that broad line of distinction which divides the Turkish people into two races and two religions, the dominant Moslem and the subject Christian—a distinction that dates from the fall of the Byzantine empire, and is alleged to consist rather in the essence of the Moslem religion, than in the accident of its political supremacy—is not to be effected by the destruction of Sebastopol, the recovery of Kars, or even the capture of St. Petersburg. The battle of civilisation and progress has, after all, to be fought out on the shores of the Bosphorus, not on the shores of the Crimea. The potentate, in whose service our arms have been wielded, has at last to be assailed by the acts of allied ambassadors. Accordingly, a council was held, on the 29th of January, at the palace of the British Embassy. The deliberations were protracted, but the Ministers of the Porte conceded all that was demanded; and the next day the Sultan ratified their assent by his own. But a signal and public proof of Abdul-Medjid's renunciation of Moslem prerogatives and peculiarities was desired. He was invited by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to attend a fancy ball, at the mansion that figures so conspicuously in every picture of the Golden Horn. The Sublime Porte actually stooped to become the guest of a foreigner, to whom, at no distant date, would hardly have been granted audience. The Commander of the Faithful mingled with a crowd of infidels—looked on while unveiled women danced with, instead of before, their lords—did not refuse to eat in the presence of strangers, nor spurn the hand outstretched to lead him down the Giaour's stairs. From the benefit of the *entente cordiale* thus proclaimed, not the meanest of his Majesty's Christian subjects could be excluded. The noble principle enunciated by Mahmoud, and chartered by the tanzimat of Gulnee—that in the eye of the law, there should be neither Moslem, Christian, nor Jew—was henceforth secure of universal observance. One of the greatest domestic revolutions in all history had been finally accomplished at a fancy ball. The practical adoption of the English doctrine of toleration was completed by the introduction of a French entertainment.

If we could forget the circumstances by which this remarkable change in the usages of a still important sovereignty was brought about, it would be a matter for warm congratulation and sanguine hope. Thirty millions of human beings, inhabiting some of the finest portions of two continents, masters of the primeval seats of empire, religion, and art, have for centuries been cursed by superstitions that nullify the best influences of a common belief in one God by fostering ferocious hatred between man and man. To close up only the political divisions which have thus been maintained would be to liberate three-fourths of that great population from degrading bondage to the remaining fourth; and to commence that process of social amelioration which mightily tends to the absorption of a false faith by the true, and the purification of the true faith from its alloy. Under the influence of a reformed Christianity and a liberal Government, the flood would again subside from the slopes of Ararat, and a harvest of human happiness stretch from the wall of Trojan to the mounds of Nimrod. But it was never known that the waters went back by treaty, or that fields sprang into fertility at the wave of a sceptre. Moral ends demand the employment of moral means. A council of ambassadors can no more extort from a Cabinet of cajoled or intimidated Mussulmen, the religious equality of a multitude of mutually embittered sects, scattered over many distant and semi-independent pro-



vices, than it can compel the soil to give back to the State its Constantines, and to the Church its Chrysostoms. There is nothing for it but to begin at the bottom and work upwards. Instead of an ambassador's palace at Pera, settle a colony of English workmen and agriculturists on the margin of the highroad to Adrianople. In place of compelling the Turks to permit the Greeks to bear arms, enable the Turks themselves to dispense with their military expenditure, that feeds venal pashas and starves the tax-payer. Before extorting fresh concessions of nominal privileges, ascertain why the ample provisions of the tanzimat have not been acted upon. In short, refrain from direct interference, but promote full intercourse. We apprehend that the very reverse of this is the course which the Allied Governments are bent on pursuing. The foreign embassies, for the last fifty years the virtual rulers of Turkey, so far as Turkey is ruled at all, are being strengthened by the influence of military and naval establishments. The Russian representative having been ousted, those of England and France seem to have the Sultan absolutely in their power, and do not even spare him the humiliation of open rivalry for mastery over him. The institutions of the empire are revised by men who are at least as likely to provoke a revolution by their blundering as to effect real improvements by their disinterested good will. The Pharisees of Redtapism we arm with all the dearly-purchased power of England, in the dominions of an ally whose dissolution was confidently predicted from his own indulgence in redtapism. We boast to the world of our intention thoroughly to regenerate the country whose unassisted development was an argument for taking the sword in its defence. We have contrived to waste its resources, both by sea and land—we have taken a mortgage on its richest province—we have left its principal fortress in either continent to the chances of war—and we shall probably "occupy" its capital with an army commissioned to carry out the reforms extorted by our envoys. Not content to defend Turkey against an enemy whose strength for aggression we enormously overrated, we insist on her accepting the boon of liberty on compulsion.

#### ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

On Wednesday last, Mr. Hullah's choral band essayed the complex harmonies of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," and Beethoven's "Mass in C," and the precision and force with which they were for the most part given, reflected credit on the careful training of the accomplished conductor. To those familiar with the beauties of these two grand works of sacred song—each perfect in its way, yet widely different in style—the performance must have afforded unalloyed pleasure. The vocal parts were admirably sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, Miss Palmer, and Mr. Thomas. Mr. Reeves' impressive reading of the fine recitative, "Watchman, will the night soon pass?" is well known, and was fully appreciated on the occasion. A crowded audience testified their delight at the entertainment by hearty applause. The same programme is to be repeated this evening at St Martin's Hall.

#### AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

Public opinion, ever slowly turning to a neglected subject, is at last beginning to take some real interest in the question of agricultural statistics. This has arisen, in a great degree, from the high price of the first necessary of life, and their important bearing upon the economical and commercial interests of this great community. It is high time that we parted with an ignorance which has laid us at the mercy of sinister estimates, uncertain rumour, reckless speculation, and the power of the foreign importer. All other great articles of consumption are, for the most part, both as to quantity and quality, well ascertained and registered, and least of all should the precious grain of the earth be excepted. When all the great staple manufactures and commercial enterprises of the day are laid bare to public view, it ill becomes the lords and occupiers of the soil to cultivate a system of seclusion and mystery. On this matter of statistics it is understood that the Government are prepared to move forward, and it would be at once to the advantage and honour of the farmers without further hesitation, they tender the right hand of fellowship and action.

We have before us, in the shape of a Blue Book, some valuable evidence elicited upon this subject last session, by a Select Committee of the House of Lords. From their report it would appear that, with the assistance of the Board of Trade, experiments, with a view to gather agricultural statistics, have been made with more or less success in England, Ireland, and Scotland. It might have been anticipated that the higher

character of farming in Scotland would facilitate inquiry; and so we find, under the able direction of Mr. Hall Maxwell, secretary of the Highland Society, that the returns, especially for 1854, bear evidence of a very hopeful accuracy. The Executive of Ireland, roused in 1847 by the sad indications of famine, made an effort towards the same object, and through the agency of the constabulary force, under the direction of the Registrar-General, secured satisfactory results. With variable success returns have also been sought from at least eleven counties in England and Wales, and the failures have not averaged more than 4½ per cent.

The kind of returns contemplated in the proposed system for the collection of statistics are broadly classified into *facts* and *estimates*. By the former we understand an accurate return of acreage under each description of crop, with similar returns of stock; and by the latter, an approximate estimate of the produce of the harvest. It is proposed to issue schedules for the acreage stock on the 1st June, returnable by the 15th July, with a view to publication by the Board of Trade by the 1st September, and then to take the estimates of the harvest during the month of November, ready for the public as early in December as possible.

The machinery to be employed in distributing and collecting the schedules is to consist of the Boards of Guardians, and unless any special reason to the contrary, the clerk of the Union to be classifier, and the relieving officers enumerators. The returns are to be rendered compulsory, but arrangements are to be made to render them above suspicion of anything like an inquisitorial character. Provision is also made in case the Board of Guardians refuse co-operation.

Now, without pledging ourselves to any specific machinery, we are at a loss to comprehend the grounds of hostility, which some portion of the agriculturists still entertain to this or any other system for the collection of satisfactory statistics. The ends contemplated will neither intrude upon nor reveal the privacy of their business, nor in any way reduce prices beyond their just and natural level. For the want of some such statistics, great uncertainty both as to supply and demand has resulted, and, as a consequence, scanty or overloaded markets have given a violent fluctuation to prices. With a free trade in corn, the desire for concealment and mystery can only be the offspring of prejudice. Estimates of the harvest will be formed by the community whether or not, and usually upon no sufficient data,—practical wisdom, then, demands that we accept those averages upon which so many prosecute a safe and healthy barter. Were these said returns an invasion upon the principles of free trade, they would merit reprobation, but since their sole object is to secure a collection of facts and estimates, destined to give liberty and expansion to trade, objections to them smack very much of old pro-corn-law antipathies. Nor let it be supposed that the Government have any ulterior views in originating this measure. The fears that such a scheme will terminate in increased taxation, or be wrested by landlords to purposes of increased rental, are groundless. No such an idea is for a moment contemplated by those who are its most zealous advocates. Besides, if we are to wait for every measure of national economy, until every ghost of possible abuse is laid, then most indubitably we shall soon arrive at a deadlock in legislation. This foolish hue and cry has been set at the heels of every advance of public opinion since the world began. Nor can just exception be taken to the compulsory nature of the measure. It is admitted on all sides, that in its absence accuracy would be impracticable. Such an objection would equally apply to the collection of returns under the Census, or the registration of other important national facts.

Looking upon the question in the whole of its aspects, we feel it to be one of great moment. The relationship which the high price of wheat bears to the fluctuation of the funds, to foreign trade, to the nature of our exchange, to the material and moral condition of the great masses of the population, raises it to one of immense importance. No opposition ought for a moment to be considered which seeks from private ends to stay a measure which bears so directly upon the wide-spread interests of society. The economical and moral character of a nation are so closely interwoven, that damage to the first becomes misery and degradation to the last. We sincerely hope that during the present session, a bill may be matured and passed which will put within our reach the positive and practical results of our harvests; so that the bounty of heaven may be righteously and frugally used, to the important purposes for which it was kindly sent.

Sergeant Brodie has been appointed by the Secretary for War Inspecting Foreman of Saddlery at Weedon-Beck.

## THE WAR.

### THE PEACE CONFERENCES.

The Plenipotentiaries to the Paris Congress which open on the 23rd February, have all arrived except two. Baron Brunow reached that capital on Tuesday M. de Bourqueney is also there. Lord Clarendon and Lord Cowley reached Paris on Saturday evening, and on the following day Lord Clarendon was received in a private audience by the Emperor, as did also Count Buol, who had arrived at Paris on the previous evening.

On Friday Baron Brunow had a long interview with Count Walewski, and on Saturday Count Cavour had an interview with the same Minister.

Aali Pasha left Constantinople on the 12th, on board the French steamer *Le Sané*, and is expected to reach Paris by the 22nd.

The Paris correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* says: "Russia concedes the non-reconstruction of Bomarsund, but she desires the neutralisation of the Isle of Heligoland, and wishes, in order to avoid their destruction, that the works on the north side of Sebastopol be considered as a land fort, the complete ruin of the south side of the city having removed all that affects its maritime character. As to Nicolaieff, Russia, it is said, does not expect that the suppression of this important dockyard (which can be devoted the more exclusively to merchant vessels, since it was at Sebastopol that the vessels hitherto were armed) will be insisted upon. Nicolaieff can no more be considered as belonging to the coast of the Black Sea than Rouen, in France, to that of the ocean. Besides, the consuls of the Maritime Powers would be able to insure a rigorous observance of the treaty."

The twenty-one articles adopted in the late Conferences at Constantinople have been forwarded to Paris, in order to be annexed to the treaty of peace; and some of the Paris papers state that the conferences relative to the Danubian Principalities have been suspended, that the questions involved in them may be decided at Paris.

The *National Gazette* of Berlin says, that it has received from a good authority the news that the German Diet, in its sitting of the 14th February, came to a decision on the Austrian propositions. The Diet adopts the propositions as the basis of a solid and durable peace, and declares itself willing to undertake to maintain them. At the same time the Diet reserves to itself the right to pronounce on the as yet undeveloped stipulations of the fifth point.

A despatch from Baron Manteuffel to Count Arnim, dated the 3rd February, intimates that Prussia is ready to adopt the basis of negotiations; and to adopt it in a manner that will "not admit of any further adjournment or compromise, by signing the preliminaries, and by participating in the negotiations connected therewith, if invited thereto by the Powers interested." Prussia will therefore support Austria at Frankfurt; and she presumes that her German allies are also ready to adopt the basis.

Count Orloff, who passed through Berlin, on his way to Paris, on Thursday, impressed all who saw him with the notion that Russia is perfectly sincere in her desires for peace.

We read in a letter from Paris, in *Le Nord*: "Although neither Prussia nor the Germanic Diet will apparently be represented in the Conferences, there will be a certain number of German diplomatists present in Paris during the progress of the negotiations. Amongst others, M. de Bismarck-Schoenhausen, representative of Prussia at the Diet, who will shortly be here. These diplomatists will be virtually, if not officially, consulted, and will be kept *au courant* with the progress of the negotiations."

Count Alexis Feodorowitch Orloff, who together with Baron Brunow will represent Russia at the Paris Conferences, is a member of the Council of the Empire, and a general of cavalry. He commanded the Russian auxiliary force sent to assist the Sultan in 1840 against Mehemet Ali, and since that time held a high and confidential post in the Chancellerie about the person of the Emperor Nicholas. He is described as a man of quiet manners and moderate in views, and to have disapproved Menschikoff's mission and style of execution in the following pithy remark: "Menschikoff a demandé beaucoup pour avoir peu; j'irai demander peu pour avoir beaucoup."

It has been remarked that a significant illustration of the changes which revolutions work in political affairs, will be afforded in the Conferences, at which Count Orloff, the intimate friend of the Emperor Nicholas, will sit, and over which Count Walewski, Polish *émigré*, formerly Aide-de-Camp of the Dictator of Poland and *Chargé d'Affaires* at London of the Polish Revolution of 1830—to-day a Minister of the French Empire—may preside!

The *Times* Paris correspondent writing the other day, respecting the *matériel* of the Conference Chamber, and the first expected proceedings of the diplomatists, says: "A very handsome table has been fitted up at the Foreign Office for the Plenipotentiaries to sit at during the Conferences. It is covered with rich crimson velvet, and, together with the chairs, forms a handsome piece of furniture. It was at first only large enough to accommodate eight persons; but then Sardinia and Turkey had only one Plenipotentiary each. Since the decision in favour of two, it has had to be lengthened, and now is large enough for twelve. I have already mentioned that Count Walewski, as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Sovereign in whose capital the Conferences are held, will preside. It is said that one of the first acts of the Emperor of Russia, after the signature of the treaty of peace, should be so happy as to see it, will be the formal notification to France and England of his accession to the throne. In diplomatic fiction,



these Powers, it seems, are supposed to believe that the Emperor Nicholas is still living."

#### THE CRIMEA.

The principal (almost the only) item of intelligence in the letters from the camp (coming down to Feb. 5) is the report of the destruction of Fort St. Nicholas.

The Russians continue to fire from the northern forts of Sebastopol. The health of the allied armies is excellent. The number of sick has diminished by one-half.

General Luder's reports, under date of the 26th ult., that the Allies continued to fortify the bay of Kamiesch. He mentions also, that some affairs of outposts had taken place on the left flank of the Russian army.

Six Russian battalions surprised a single Turkish battalion. The Turks got off with a small loss in men, but left ten guns and all their baggage in the enemy's hands. The Russians then plundered the town, and set fire to the Prince's Palace and the neighbouring villages. Colonel Lake and Captain Thompson are on their way from Tiflis to St. Petersburg.

The return for the last week in January gives eighteen deaths only, in an army of 53,000 men in the Crimea, exclusive of the Highlanders, &c., at Kerch, and five out of the eighteen were in the Land Transport Corps. In the corresponding week last year, the British army was about 30,000, and there were 538 deaths, and the hospitals crowded with the sick and dying.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Royal Mail Company have received orders from the Admiralty to immediately prepare their steam-ships *Orinoco* and *Great Western*, now lying at Southampton, for the transport service. The *Thames* is also to be got ready for the purpose of conveying to Malta from Portsmouth, on Saturday next 500 men and 22 officers, detachments of various regiments. The General Screw Company have received an intimation that the Government may require the use of their four large ships now lying in Southampton Docks—viz., the *Calcutta*, *Argo*, *Hydaspes*, and *Queen of the South*, for the transport service.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir Richard S. Dundas, the late Commander-in-Chief of the Baltic fleet, has been re-appointed to that command by the Board of Admiralty.

In addition to the 86th Regiment and a battalion of the Rifle Corps, which are about to be despatched to Canada, it is understood to be the intention to send out several other regiments to British North America, so as to form a powerful force in that country. In anticipation of this step being taken, it is rumoured that almost every regiment now attached to the home station has received private intimation that their services may be required in Canada.

The *Moniteur* contains a decree, fixing the number of men to be called on to recruit the army in 1856. It is precisely that of last year; showing that France, whilst willing to negotiate for peace, keeps up her material for war. The decree fixes the number of men to be furnished by each department to make up the 140,000 called out in 1856 of the class of 1855.

The whole strength of the Russians in the Crimea is said to be from 105,000 to 120,000.

In consequence of the affair of Colonel Turr, an order has been sent by Lord Panmure that no Austrian officers are to be admitted into the Anglo-Italian Legion unless they produce a regular discharge from the Austrian service. The Piedmontese papers state that the Anglo-Italian Legion organised in Piedmont amounts at present to 3,000 men.

The formidable defensive works in course of construction at Portsmouth have excited the surprise of some of the Paris journals.

Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, K.C.B., is appointed to succeed Rear-Admiral Stirling as Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies.

### Foreign and Colonial.

#### TURKEY.

On the 1st of this month, the Sultan was present at a masked ball given by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe—the first instance of the kind on record. He was escorted thither by British cavalry, and received by a body of Guards and Highlanders. He partook of refreshment in public, and leant on the arm of Lord Stratford when he retired. Lady Stratford has also introduced a novelty at Pera—a children's fancy dress ball; whereat some two hundred little masqueraders in Turkish, Frankish, Albanian, Greek, and Armenian costumes, were present. The Sultan has also attended a ball given by the French Ambassador.

The Conferences relative to the Danubian Principalities have, it is confidently stated, been suspended, that the questions involved in them may be decided at Paris. The intelligence from Asia is to the effect that the head-quarters of Omar Pasha continue at Redoubt-Kaleh, and that the force under his command amounts to 32,000 men.

The Sultan has decreed that in remembrance of the courage and perseverance displayed by the inhabitants of Silistria in 1854, they shall not be liable for three years to any taxes, nor to furnish recruits to the army. The surviving wounded are to receive a money indemnity, and all who took part in the defence a military medal.

#### AMERICA.

We have advices from New York to the 6th.

The most important news brought by the Africa is the election of a Speaker of the House of Representatives. This unprecedented and memorable struggle, which had been protracted to nine weeks, was brought to a close on Feb. 2, and resulted in the triumph of Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, the Free-soil

candidate. The contest was only terminated under the adoption of the plurality rule, which the house adopted with the greatest reluctance. By an analysis of the votes it appears that Mr. Banks received the whole Republican strength except four, and that Mr. Aiken received the support of all the Democrats except two, and of all the National Americans except six. The latter eight had in their power to elect Mr. Aiken, even if the four dissentient Republicans had sustained Mr. Banks. But the result is acquiesced in by all parties as a proper relief from the state of anarchy in which the house had been labouring.

Subsequent to the declaration of the result, and the announcement by the tellers of Mr. Banks' majority, objections were started by the Know-Nothings as to the legality of the whole proceeding, whereupon a resolution endorsing the action of the House was offered and adopted. The lobbies of the House were crowded to suffocation, and the excitement was increased by the startling cry that a boy was being crushed to death by the pressure in the galleries. Some of the members shouted out, "Fall back!" "Fall back!" and others, "Hand him over the rail!" The boy was at length released from his imminent danger. Deafening shouts of applause from the Republican side and other quarters of the House greeted the announcement of Mr. Banks' election, and in the galleries ladies waved their handkerchiefs. For several minutes the disorder was beyond description. On the 4th the formality of swearing in the members took place.

The *Union*, official organ, thus speaks of Mr. Banks' election: "Although the result is one that every rational man must regret, yet, as the Republicans have a known majority in the house, and therefore are entitled to a Speaker, there is reason for acquiescing, inasmuch as it enables the machinery of Government once more to move on."

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* says it "has leaked out of the State Department" that the French Government had assumed a position in relation to certain Russian vessels that had been transferred since the commencement of the Eastern war to citizens of the United States, being at the time of the transfer in American ports, which it was likely would "make difficulty unless the President faints." A list of the vessels had been furnished to the United States Minister to France, and the determination avowed on the part of the French and English Governments to hold them as lawful prizes of war if they are captured. According to the correspondent, "Mr. Mason, it is reported, exhibits some apprehension on the subject."

The Irishman charged at Cincinnati with Fillibustering designs against Ireland has been acquitted.

Mlle. Rachel has reached New York, en route for France *via* England.

The Government of Granada had demanded of the United States' Government that her Minister at Washington should be apprised of the intention to transport United States' troops, in order that the Governor of Panama, being advised of the fact, might be able to distinguish Fillibusters from *bona fide* troops. It also demanded that United States' troops on transit through the territory should conform to the civil laws of the country.

The President had communicated to the Senate a letter from Lord John Russell to Mr. Crampton, dated 19th January, 1853, suggesting a mode of terminating one of the vexed questions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty—the protectorate of Mosquito. Lord John proposed that Greytown should be made a free port, connected with Mosquito by terms of friendship and alliance; that the Mosquitoes should be indemnified for the loss of Greytown; and that Great Britain and the United States should always hold themselves in readiness to defend Greytown against any attack.

When the letter had been read, Mr. Clayton, moving that it should be printed, made a speech on the usurpations of England, and the "torrid, monstrous, and disgraceful" character of her diplomacy. Mr. Mason said that England showed a "total disregard to treaty stipulations with the United States." Mr. Cass moved that the consideration of the subject should be deferred. This was agreed to. Several speeches on Central American affairs have since been delivered. Mr. Cass, Mr. Seward, and Mr. Collamer denounced the pretensions of this country, and though deploring a war, nevertheless maintained that the American position was justifiable. Mr. Seward, in his speech, suggested that the President should inform the English Government that in the event of England not discontinuing to exercise dominion in the disputed territory, Central America, within one year, the United States Government would be empowered to prevent it. An amicable adjustment, he thought, would result, but at the same time he would urge his own Cabinet in the meanwhile not to be inactive, but, on the contrary, to be fully prepared for all future contingencies. On the 5th Mr. Foote denied the claims of England in Central America, &c. The idea of yielding her pretensions was not to be thought of. If England did not give way, he "would have her removed by force of arms." "Let England," he said, "understand that we are in earnest about this, and that it is not a second edition of 54 degrees, 40 minutes or fight, and then back down to 49 degrees. If, after so much forbearance, war comes, let it come. We shall be justified both by God and man."

After the adjournment of the Senate, on the 31st ult., an executive session was held to consider the nomination of Mr. Dallas as Minister to England. It was proposed to confirm the nomination without delay; but, on a motion of Mr. Clayton, who wishes to ascertain the views of the nominee on questions of foreign policy, the subject was referred to the appropriate committee. It is said that Mr. Buchanan will leave London on the 12th February. The appoint-

ment of the new American minister to England is thus notified in the official Washington newspaper: "George M. Dallas, of Pennsylvania, to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Her Britannic Majesty, in the place of James Buchanan, recalled at his own request." The *Pennsylvanian*, published in the city where Mr. Dallas resides, thus notices the new minister: "Probably no safer person could be found among our statesmen, now that Mr. Buchanan is about to leave England, than Mr. Dallas, to handle the difficult questions which at present remain unsettled between this country and Great Britain. He is cautious, prudent, and wise, and will bring to the discussions of the various subjects a highly-gifted mind and an enlarged statesmanship. As United States senator, minister to Russia, and Vice-President of the Union, he acquitted himself with much honour, and acquired a lasting reputation."

Mr. Buchanan was expected in New York by an early mail. It is his intention to start as a democratic candidate for the Presidency.

Samana, Azua, and Romana, three ports of San Domingo, were closed to commercial intercourse on the 14th December last, the Dominican republic being declared in a state of siege.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

On the 14th, the Senators and Deputies of Turin gave a banquet to General La Marmora. After the repast the General was saluted with the loudest acclamations by the people.

An amnesty is announced by the *Austrian Gazette* as about to be granted with respect to individuals implicated in the revolutionary events of 1848, in Lombardy.

M. Bluhme, one of the members of the Oersted Ministry, now with some of his ex-colleagues on his trial, and under impeachment, has been elected to the Grand Council by the constituency of Copenhagen. MM. Broberg, Andra, Ankjar, Fenger, and the Count of Holstein have also been elected.

Mr. Goudouneche, an ex-professor of the University of Paris, and now the editor of a literary journal called the *Avenir*, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for having cried "Vive la Liberté" on the day of the funeral of M. David (d'Angers).

Two Jesuit churches are, it is said, about to be erected in Vienna.

Private letters from Algiers to the 10th, announce severe fighting between the Imperial troops and the Kabyles, but the insurrection was at that time confined to the Beneraten mountains.

The *Times*' Erzeroum correspondent writes, on Jan. 16th: Letters from Persia state that Dost Mohammed was close upon Herat. The Shah had mustered an army to oppose him. Hitherto the Afghans had had the best of it. Selim Pasha was sending all the European officers from Erzeroum. The main body of the Russians had retired from Kars, taking all the guns with them. The road to Gumri is quite open, despite the snow.

Said Pasha, the Viceroy of Egypt, who is supposed to be hoarding money for pet projects, is plundering all his subjects with great impartiality, except his private soldiers, whom he pets. He has just intimated a great reduction of the grant to the great and renowned free school of Cairo, El Azhar, which will have the effect of almost entirely stopping the proceedings of the school. The original grant was made by Mehemet Ali, as a sort of compensation for 14,000 acres of land "appropriated" by him.

The Patriarch of Venice has ordained that, "in order to avoid unpleasantness (scandal), all those persons who do not fast on the appointed fast-days are to be served in a private room."

A number of Polish refugees at Paris gave a dinner, on Tuesday, to General Zamoycki, who is about to proceed to Constantinople. It was attended by Prince L. Czartoryski and by other Poles of distinction, and Prince Adam Czartoryski in the evening joined the party. Toasts to the Allied Powers, to the two Princes Czartoryski, and to General Zamoycki, were drunk with enthusiasm. Prince Czartoryski and General Count Zamoycki had a private audience of the Emperor afterwards.

#### NEW LOAN OF FIVE MILLIONS.

A notification was received on Friday afternoon, by the Governor of the Bank of England, that on Monday the Premier and Chancellor of the Exchequer would be happy to see any capitalists at the Treasury on Monday who desired information relative to a new loan and funding of Exchequer-bills. There was a considerable attendance on the occasion. The Government were represented by Lord Palmerston, Sir G. C. Lewis, Sir Alexander Spearman, and Mr. J. Wilson. The Governor and the Deputy-Governor of the Bank also attended. Among the persons connected with the moneyed interest were Baron Rothschild, Baron I. L. Goldsmid, Messrs. R. and T. Thornton, J. Hutchinson, J. Capel, W. H. Mullens, Prescott, T. A. Hankey, Laurence, M. Uzielli, Norbury, Cazenove, Steer, W. A. Wilkinson, Hunter, C. McGarel, B. B. Williams, L. Cohen, Burnand, H. Stern, &c. The Chancellor of the Exchequer read first the particulars of the proposed loan, which are subjoined. The announcement of the small amount of 5,000,000 created surprise.

#### PARTICULARS OF THE PROPOSED LOAN.

1. The loan to be for the sum of 5,000,000.
2. For every 100l. subscribed in money the contractors to receive Three per Cent. Consolidated Annuities, and the biddings to be made in such annuities.
3. The interest on the Three per Cent. Consolidated Annuities to commence on the 5th January, 1856.
4. The days of payment and the proportions of the contributions to be paid to be as follows:—



On Tuesday, Feb. 26, 1856, deposit of £20 per cent.  
On Thursday, March 13, 1856, payment of 25 "  
On Saturday, March 29, 1856, " 25 "  
On Thursday, April 10, 1856, " 15 "  
On Thursday, April 24, 1856, " 15 "

5. For each instalment after the deposit a proportional amount of stock to be created for the contributors.

The stock for the deposit to be created at the same time with that which will be due on the last instalment.

6. Scrip receipts will be issued by the Bank in the usual manner.

7. The biddings to be made at the Treasury, on Friday morning, the 22nd of February, 1856, at ten o'clock."

He then brought forward the proposal for a funding of Exchequer-bills, which is as follows. In this case the limited extent of the operation was also a subject of remark:—

#### FUNDING.

The amount of Exchequer-bills to be funded will be three millions (3,000,000.)

The deposit will be 20 per cent. on the 26th of February, 1856; and the instalments—

20 per cent. on the 13th of March.

30 per cent. on the 29th of March.

20 per cent. on the 10th of April.

10 per cent. on the 24th of April.

The contractors for the loan to have the option of contracting for the Exchequer-bill funding on the same terms as shall be accepted for the loan.

In the event of the contractors wishing for an option to pay money, instead of Exchequer-bills, it will be received at 100*l.* 5*s.* money for every 100*l.* of Exchequer-bills.

In answer to questions from Baron Rothschild, Mr. L. Cohen, and others, it was stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the total amount of the unfunded debt in existence is about 23,000,000*l.*, and that no discount will be allowed for prepayment of instalments, the shortness of the period over which they are spread rendering it unnecessary. Should the parties who take the loan refuse the option offered in connexion with the proposed funding, the Government, it was said, will when the biddings are made on Friday, state the terms they are prepared to accept.

Baron Rothschild, Mr. R. Thornton, and Mr. Hutchinson desired to be informed if the Government contemplated any further immediate loan operations, to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that the only information he was in a position to give was that no similar financial measures will be taken during the period in which the present loan and funding are in progress.

The whole of the parties then retired.

#### ADMIRAL LYONS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

The Lord Mayor entertained Sir Edmund Lyons at the Mansion House on Wednesday. A great company was present; including Sir Charles and Lady Mary Wood, Lord and Lady Overstone, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Dr. and Mrs. Milman, and Sir Charles and Lady Trevelyan. The oratory did not rise above the level common at the oft-repeated festivities of this kind. In the course of his speech, Sir Edmund Lyons spoke in the highest terms of the efficiency of the navy.—The fleet has never been in a greater state of efficiency. The ships of all classes are as near perfection as can well be imagined—very superior to what they ever were on any former occasion. There have lately been brought into existence a Lilliputian class, which, if the war continue, will make itself felt, because capable of striking a blow within arm's length. So much for the ship, and now for the officers. He was afraid that some of the admirals are too old. They are sorry for it, though he hoped the country would forgive them what they cannot help. But as to the captains and younger officers, they are equal to any the service ever boasted of. The ships are also well manned, and in the most satisfactory manner, by volunteers. It is a proud thing that the Queen's forces, both by sea and land, serve Her Majesty with an enthusiastic heroism never surpassed; yet the service is voluntary.

#### Court, Personal, and Official News.

The Court remains at Buckingham Palace. On Thursday the Queen and Prince went to the Princess's. On Friday, the Earl of Clarendon and Lord Cowley had an audience of the Queen, at Buckingham Palace. In the evening the Queen honoured the performance of Mr. Costa's new oratorio at Exeter Hall, with her presence and approbation. The Duchess of Sutherland, the Princess Royal, the Swedish Minister and Baroness Hochschild, Count Bjornstjerna, the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, Lord Cowley, Lord and Lady Wodehouse, have assisted at the Queen's dinner-parties. On Monday, accompanied by her family, the Queen visited the Panorama, in Leicester-square, of the Fall and Interior of the City of Sebastopol. The Prince afterwards rode on horseback with the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred. Viscount Palmerston had an audience of the Queen in the afternoon. In the evening the Queen, Prince Albert, the Princess Royal, and Prince Alfred went to the Olympic Theatre.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday afternoon at the Foreign-office, and sat three hours and a half.

Earl Granville entertained at dinner, on Wednesday, the American Minister and a distinguished party of guests; afterwards Countess Granville held a reception, very fully attended; the Duchess, Duke, and Princess Mary of Cambridge, honoured her ladyship with visits.

Viscount Palmerston entertained at dinner, at his residence on the Terrace, Piccadilly, on Saturday evening, the following members of the House of Commons: Viscount Raynham, Colonel Lockyer

Freestun, Mr. Antrobus, Mr. Atherton, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Craufurd, Mr. Dundas, Mr. Pinney, Mr. Ellice, Mr. Scrope, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Steel, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Hindley, Mr. Luce, Mr. Morris, Mr. Kirk.

The Right Hon. the Speaker gave his second Parliamentary dinner on Saturday, at his mansion in Eaton-square.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton entertained at dinner, on Saturday last, a distinguished party, among whom were the Duke of Montrose, the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Ellenborough, Lord Lyndhurst, Lord Colchester, the Marquis of Blandford, the Earl of Eglinton, and Sir Henry Bulwer, G.C.B.

Mr. Bright, M.P., has been unable to resume his seat in Parliament this session, in consequence of indisposition arising from an affection of the liver and bilious attack. The honourable gentleman was very unwell when he attended the Manchester soirée to himself and colleague, a few days before the assembling of Parliament, and up to the day preceding that meeting it was doubtful if he would be able to take part in the proceedings.

An address from the Irish bar to the Lord Chief Justice, as the head of the common law bench in Ireland, is in preparation, on the subject of the late motion in the House of Commons reflecting on the capabilities of the Irish judges.

A monster blast has been fired at the Holyhead harbour quarry, which consumed ten months in preparation, and is supposed to have displaced 60,000 tons of rock.

Sir Andrew Agnew was returned for Wigtonshire on Saturday week, in the room of Lord Dalrymple. There was no opposition. His motto is "Progress, Toleration, Reform." On the Sabbath question he will tread in the steps of his father.

Mr. George Warren Edwardes has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Island of Labuan and its dependencies. The Ven. Reginald Courtenay, Archdeacon of Middlesex, in Jamaica, has been appointed coadjutor to the Bishop of Jamaica, under the name and style of Bishop of Kingston. The Bishop of Jamaica retires from his active pastoral duties on a pension.

Mr. John Lawler, the sculptor, has received a commission from Prince Albert for a copy, in marble, of his figure of "The Bather."

Messrs. Carlyle, Dickens, and Forster, announce that they have received subscriptions sufficient to purchase an annuity of 25*l.* a year for "Dr. Johnson's goddaughter," Miss Lowe; and that "an ardent and renowned admirer of Turner," having discovered that Miss Lowe's father "befriended and saved to art" Turner, when he was a barber's boy, has bestowed 5*l.* a year more on Miss Lowe and her sister.

The execution of the statue of Mr. Baines, about to be erected at Leeds, has been intrusted to Mr. Behnes, of Osnaburgh-street. Exclusively of the pedestal, which is to be of Sicilian marble, the artist is to receive 800*l.* for his labours. When completed, the statue will be placed in the vestibule of the new Town Hall of Leeds.

The vacancy for Leominster has led to a contest. The candidates in the field are Mr. James Campbell and Mr. Gathorne Hardy, both strangers to Leominster. Mr. Campbell is favourable to an extension of the suffrage, vote by ballot, "and generally to those measures of progress and improvement which have usually received the support of the Liberal party." He is also for administrative reform, and considers army and navy reform, and a just distribution of rewards and promotions in those branches of the public service as "necessary for the safety and honour of the country." Mr. Hardy is the Conservative candidate, and advocates the extension of education, based on religion, and an amendment of the law, and would not be slow to amend our political constitution where reason is shown for alteration, but will not try rash experiments. The nomination took place on Monday. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of Mr. Campbell, and a poll was demanded for Mr. Hardy, which was fixed for the following day. The number of electors is about 380.

Mr. Robert Stephenson, M.P., has placed at the disposal of the Council of the Society of Arts ten guineas, to be applied to promote the System of Examination now being established for Candidates from classes at Mechanics' Institutes. This the council has determined to offer as a "Stephenson Prize" to the person who shall pass the most successful examination in Mathematics and Mechanics. Mr. C. Wentworth Dilke has offered a similar prize of ten guineas, to be awarded by the Society of Arts' Examiners to the candidate who shall pass the best examination in English History.

The Hon. Grantley Berkeley is not, it is said, to be brought forward for the county of Middlesex at the next election.

Lord Haddo, M.P., is greatly improved in health, and is able to attend to his duties in the House of Commons for the first time since his election for Aberdeenshire in 1854.

Mr. Serjeant Wilkins was taken seriously ill in the Court of Common Pleas on Monday. He was scarcely able to stagger into the adjoining lobby, and then became quite exhausted, and would have fallen but for the assistance of a number of gentlemen present. He was scarcely able to breathe, and was evidently suffering from spasmodic affection of the chest. Fortunately, a number of medical gentlemen were present on the trial, and Mr. Stilton, of Guy's, Mr. Cocks, Mr. Day, and others, promptly rendered every assistance. He has since greatly revived.

Elizabeth Ann Harris, of Uxbridge, has been committed to trial on a charge of murdering Ellen and Agnes Harris, respectively aged five and two years and a half, her children, by drowning. The prisoner is twenty-five years of age, and unmarried.

#### Miscellaneous News.

A reading-room for the exclusive use of ladies has been added to the Leeds Library. The ladies entitled to the privileges are the wives of the proprietors, and such ladies of their families as subscribe 5*s.* per annum.

A girl of seventeen has enlisted in the ninety-seventh regiment, at Windsor. When her sex was discovered, she was arrested on the charge of obtaining the Queen's money under false pretences. It is said that she has a sweetheart in the Crimea, and hoped to be able to join him by enlisting as a soldier.

Saturday was appointed by the Representative Council of St. Marylebone for the election of a medical officer of health, under the Metropolis Local Management Act. Eighteen candidates stood for office. Mr. Robert Dundas Thomson was elected by a majority of thirty-four.

A Chatham Coroner's Jury have returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Mr. Turner and Mr. Bedwell, Military Assistant-Surgeons, for causing the death of Stinson, a soldier, in the Garrison Hospital. Mr. Turner administered tincture of opium in mistake for tincture of senna; and Mr. Bedwell, when the narcotic was killing the man, did nothing effectual for his relief, thinking he was merely in a fit.

The body of Mr. Sadlier, M.P. for Sligo, was found cold and lifeless, at half-past eight o'clock on Sunday morning, in a secluded portion of Hampstead-heath, near the Jack Straw Castle Hotel. Beside him lay a large bottle, which contained the essential oil of bitter almonds; and it was but too evident that with this powerful poison he had terminated his existence, in the prime and vigour of manhood. There were few men outside the house of Rothschild who speculated to such an extent in foreign and continental railways, and mining undertakings; and it is believed that during the last few weeks he sustained such enormous losses as not only completely dissipated the large fortune he was known to have amassed, but involved his affairs in hopeless and inextricable ruin. It is supposed that the immediate cause of his suicide was the failure of the Tipperary Joint Stock Bank, with which he was connected, and which on Saturday stopped payment.

On Sunday evening, a murder was discovered to have been committed at No. 18, Linton-street, New North-road. Upon searching the house, the police found concealed in the coal-cellar the body of a girl, apparently between thirteen and fourteen years of age, with her throat cut in a frightful manner. The house was occupied by a foreigner and his wife, named respectively Charles and Celestria Somner. The unfortunate deceased, it is said, is their niece. The servant girl who gave information to the police says that, on Saturday, about eleven o'clock, she heard considerable scuffling in the house, followed by a sound of screaming, and which she thought was caused by her mistress quarrelling with the supposed niece, and locking her up in the coal-cellar. Soon after, a person, whom she suspected to be her mistress, entered her room, and advancing hastily to her with a light, passed a hand over her face, but she had the presence of mind to feign sleep and the intruder left the room. The following evening, on an acquaintance calling, she seized the opportunity of getting away, and giving information. The man and his wife were still in the house on the arrival of the police, and were forthwith taken into custody. At the examination at the Clerkenwell Police-court, the evidence bore hard against Celestria Somner, blood being found on her clothes. Rebecca Donnelly, searcher at the station-house, said the prisoner's petticoat, from the fore part to the knee downwards, was covered with blood. Mr. Corrie said that there was no evidence to warrant the detention of the male prisoner, but he should remand the female until Monday next. The witnesses already examined were then bound over to prosecute at the Central Criminal Court, on the charge of wilful murder against the prisoner.

#### Literature.

*Gilbert Messenger.* By HOLME LEE. Smith, Elder, and Co.

THE author of "Gilbert Messenger" is now tolerably well known to the public; it is the first time we have had to do with him. We find in him a novelist who can afford to be a story-teller and nothing more. Most modern novels are stories and something beside. Here is no gorgeous scene-painting, no dramatic conversation, no pointed reflection, no brilliant writing of any sort. Very much of the interest of some of the best of contemporary novels depends on one or other of these things. We intend no disparagement by the assertion; all these are legitimate additions to the attraction of the story. But Holme Lee (if the name is not a *nom-de-plume*) has a quiet power of his own, which enables him to dispense with these aids. It is in the story—the development of character, and the succession of incident—that the fascination of "Gilbert Messenger" lies. Nothing too can be simpler than the manner of the story-telling: though he writes picturesquely and with feeling, the style is always direct and unambitious. There are few fine passages which one can afterwards select, when he wants to convey to others an idea of what it was that charmed him in the book; but the persons painted have a definite individuality, and dwell on the memory, long and vividly. The story has a grave purpose kept carefully in view. Gilbert Messenger is indebted to nature



for strength, self-reliance, and resoluteness; and to a maiden aunt for an education which has been found in all cases—we need only instance the Scotch, and the Puritans of Old and New England—to develop these qualities, and at the same time quicken and control them by raising the conscience to its due supremacy; we mean a rigidly Calvinistic education. In each the power of conscience is put to the hardest of all possible tests. We are not going to tell the story; it is too good to be marred in an abstract. This much we may say: Gertrude Massenger is, in her lifetime, to her nephew and all around, a gaunt, cheerless figure of duty; there is nothing genial and loving about her; the poor feel that her very charities are done for herself, not for them; she conciliates no sympathy or love. After her death Gilbert learns from her papers the secret of her life—the mystery that spread over it its veil of grim sadness. By herself he had once been darkly told that madness was hereditary in the family; and now he finds that rather than perpetuate that curse, Gertrude Massenger had by one strong effort torn asunder her bridal veil and deliberately forsworn the golden promise of the years.

Here is the passage in which he makes the discovery:—

"Utterly broken and subdued, he wandered back to the house. It was almost dark in the parlour, and Mittie was carrying in tea, with the lighted candles; she asked him two or three questions, but so pre-occupied was he that he neither heard nor answered. Being again left alone, he sank into a chair, and for a while remained with his face buried in his arms; presently he rose with a heavy groan, fetched his aunt's desk, and proceeded to an examination of her papers, hoping to find some explicit record of the facts detailed by Mittie: perhaps to discover something which might mitigate their force.

"All was in exact order, for her habits were methodical. His search, however, promised to be useless, and he was just on the point of abandoning it, when he perceived that there was a drawer formed in the thickness of the desk; on pressing a spring this started open; within lay a thin packet of letters, tied together with a faded ribbon, and several loose sheets of paper closely covered with a small, delicate writing. He hesitated some minutes before touching any of these, but at length he slowly opened the letters. They were in a large, bold hand, and bore the signature of William Graham as he expected. He glanced at them cursorily: these old love-letters, yellow, faded, were all written in happy times; there was not one after Gertrude Massenger formed her singular resolve, consequently no explanation of it.

"He took up the topmost of the loose leaves, which proved to be part of a diary; it bore a recent date, and therefore he sought lower down, and found a few sheets almost illegible from the paleness of the writing. These began as far back as her engagement to William Graham; indeed, that was the first event recorded, and the diary seemed to have been commenced as an outlet for the sensations of exuberant happiness it caused her. Soon the entries became more sparse and brief: the last was made on New Year's-Eve, before, as it is stated, going to her last party previous to her marriage. The rest of the page was blank. The next bore date upwards of two years later, and referred to her brother Ralph; who, it appeared, had come home with his bride. It was angry and bitter; it spoke of a wasted sacrifice, and anticipated evils dark and fatal. Three lines mentioned the birth of a son to her brother; the same number stated the death of his wife. No comment was attached to either. Half-a-dozen pregnant words recorded the removal of Ralph to the same place as the others, later in the same year. Then, again, a blank half-sheet. The one which followed it commenced thus:—

"I went this morning to the Retreat to see Ralph; it is the first time I have been able to nerve myself up to the task; and when I got to the gate, I felt coward enough to wish to turn back, without performing it: but I forced myself to go through with it. The doctor told me it was one of his best days, and that I had timed my coming fortunately, as perhaps he might know me, which would not have been the case the day before. As we walked along the passages to his room, I tried to harden myself so as not to betray emotion: Oh, my God, what a miserable spectacle! The helpless, sickening fatuity of his countenance revolted me! His leer, his rolling eyes, his gestures made by very heart turn. Raving, fierce insanity may have so much of the terrible as to awe—but this sight! never while I live will it be absent from me.

"And if I had been weak—if I had listened to the suggestions of my heart—I might have married William Graham, and borne him children to become objects like that—objects of loathing and fear, even to those who should love them. I thank my God earnestly for the strength he gave me in that hour of trial. Every day now I shall look more fearfully than ever in Gilbert's face to watch the growth of reason. I will strive to imbue him with the spirit of self-denial, that he may finish what I have begun, and that the curse of our family may cease from the earth.

"Gilbert hid his face from the light—it was of his father that page spoke! The same diseased blood ran in his veins; the same torpor of intellect might fall on him! Oh! miserable, ghastly possibility!

"It shall cease from the earth," he cried aloud; 'I swear it!' As the words broke from his lips a chill fell upon him: he shook in every limb. The soul of Jephtha when he saw the full consequences of his rash vow, could not have supported a keener agony. The words divided him from Helen, as effectually as if death stood between them; he would never go back from his oath. What now remained for him to do was to fulfil it.

And he fulfils it. By a singular fatality the lady whom he forces himself to renounce is the niece of William Graham mentioned in the above extract. He seeks the consolation of forgetfulness by a voluntary exile in the backwoods of America; and returning thence finds his Helen the happy mother of children.

We admire not a little the art and patience with which the plot is perfected. And we admire not less the sound and practical philosophy which has guided the author in shaping its conclusion. The retributions of this world are jarring and confused; and the author draws from life when he discards the old story-book endings, and leaves the self-sacrifice of Gilbert to terminate only with life's end. The gloom which thus gathers over the whole picture is in some degree relieved by the happiness of Helen; and Gilbert himself is visited at last by light and hope. "On his brow is no repining, in his eye no gloom, on his lip neither despondence nor complaint. He bears up with brave, honest, faithful soul. Having put his hand to the plough, let what sorrow will turn up in the furrows, he will not look back; he looks up instead, and there sees, afar off, what will satisfy him."—"Yes," said he aloud, "the light is enough for me. . . . God, I thank thee that, though earth's joys are withheld from me, thou hast given me thy peace within."

*History of Piedmont* By ANTONIO GALLENGA. Three Vols. London: Chapman and Hall.

THE history of Savoy, as considered apart from Piedmont, has been repeatedly and not unskillfully written—says Signor Gallenga—while, on the other hand, Piedmont, as an Italian province, has been much neglected by national writers. Private exertions, however, have at various times supplied valuable materials, the fruit of unwearied researches, for the production of the required history: but lately, in the best days of Charles Albert, royal libraries and public archives were thrown open to scholars, a historical society was founded, a collection of "monuments of the country's history" was published, and, at length, "the long-buried past stalked forth in all its grim majesty before the eager gaze of the living generation." Yet, the History of Piedmont, as a whole, remained to be written, till Signor Gallenga took up the task. It has been his object in the present work, to study the causes which led to the formation of the State of Piedmont and gave it stability; to bring the whole Past to bear on the Present; and to make intelligible the new attitude now assumed by Piedmont, and her relations, in her present rehabilitated condition, to Italy and Europe in general. His work is one of great merit and interest; marked by sincere study, painstaking research, faithfulness to the authorities, and mastery of the materials; and it is written with great elegance and force, and in an earnest spirit of Piedmontese nationalism. Its defects are, an exaggerating admiration for the House of Savoy,—the use of an extenuating tone in the account of the Waldensian persecutions,—and, a party-spirit that prevails injuriously in the representation of modern events related to "the Italian Cause." Notwithstanding a general fairness that is to be praised,—and an approximate correctness, as we think, in the ultimate judgment of those movements which are written about with most prejudice,—the author appears to us, not only to have failed to do justice to Mazzini and his coadjutors, but, to have done them positive injustice. We strongly condemn the sully of the historic page with a partisan treatment of movements, which can only by-and-by be fairly judged. We do not criticise the author's personal opinions in themselves;—perhaps we are not so much at war with them as these remarks might seem to imply; but it is at least foreign to our conception of history thus to substitute opinions for facts, and to baptize those opinions in the yet confused politics of the present. It is not to be doubted, however, that Signor Gallenga has produced a work, which even political opponents will regard with respect, for its many great qualities; and which will long occupy a high place in the library of history.

It is comparatively recently that Piedmont has obtained a real existence. Formerly, "men talked only of the State or monarchy of Savoy. The annals of the country were merely those of a mountain chief and his clan, or rather of a general and his regiment. But nevertheless the People was slowly forming—developing tendencies, aspirations, forces of its own." For three centuries, the Princes of Savoy had "drilled a whole people into an army." Then came the events of 1848, and, suddenly, that army became truly a people. A constitution has been granted to them—one which, in spite of its defects, gives the substance of liberty. The people have, in recent times, had reason to respect the rulers by whom they have come to be a people; and they have been loyal and obedient to princes who repaid them by honesty and good faith. And now, to-day, the kingdom of Sardinia promises to maintain place and power in Europe, such as it has not before had: and the kingly king—"Re Galantuomo," as he is called—and his subjects are heartily as one. Of all this, Signor Gallenga may well be proud; and it is with perfect truth and significance he says,—"There is another—a moral contest—waging at this moment. Every day in which Piedmont reconciles freedom with

order, in which it proves the capability of the Italian people for self-government, it wins a battle for itself, for Italy, and for humanity."

Savoy had its origin in a marriage. By the alliance of Oddo, son of Humbert the white-handed, with Adelaide, daughter of Oddric Manfred, after the year 1044, a very large portion of the kingdom of Burgundy, and several counties in Western Lombardy, or Piedmont, were united under one sceptre. In later times the House of Savoy owed a good deal to fortunate marriages; and, in England especially, prospered upon foreign matrimonial connexions.

"Beatrice, daughter of Thomas I., was united to Raymond Berenger, the last Count of Provence. She bore him only four daughters, but each of them was destined to wear a queen's diadem. Margaret, the eldest, was married to Louis IX. (St. Louis) of France, in 1234: two years later, Eleanor, the second, a princess of unmatched beauty, was wedded to Henry III., of England. The two others were also raised to high nuptials in the same royal families—one united to Richard of Cornwall, brother of Henry III., who was made King of the Romans; the other to Charles of Anjou, brother of St. Louis, heir of Provence, and eventually King of Naples. The advantages accruing to the sons of Thomas I. by these connexions, far exceeded their brightest expectations. William, who accompanied his niece Queen Eleanor to England, at the time of the wedding, in 1236, and who already bore the title of Bishop of Valence, was well-nigh rewarded with the hand of the heiress of the Earldom of Kent. Failing in this, the king wished successively to raise him to the dignity of Abbot of Westminster, and to the bishoprics of Winchester and Norwich. Baffled in all these schemes by the stubborn resistance of the clergy of those dioceses, the king gave him at last all his confidence as Prime Minister and favourite. Boniface, the youngest of the family of Thomas I., obtained the Primacy of England. On Peter II., the 'Little Charlemagne,' Henry III. bestowed the manor of Richmond, the wardship of the Earl of Warenne, and in later times also the Earldom of Essex; besides large sums of money which enabled him to pursue his mighty schemes of aggrandisement in Savoy and Switzerland. . . . For the accommodation of all these relatives, all frequent visitors to his Court, Henry also built, in 1247, the palace in the Strand, known by the name of 'the Savoy,' a conspicuous edifice, the last remnants of which with the exception of the chapel, were removed only in 1816, at the time of the construction of Waterloo Bridge. The honours and gold lavished on these princes gave rise to the greatest animosity amongst a people at no time over-partial to foreigners, and at that time also greatly and justly irritated by the intrusion of a swarm of Italian priests, who, to the number of more than three hundred, had obtained the richest livings in the Church,—an animosity which finds its vent in almost every page of a contemporaneous historian [Matthew Paris] who deplores the King's infatuation, calls him 'sins durus alienigenis prodigus,' and inveighs especially against the marriages of so many adventurers from Savoy and Vaud with the wealthiest English heiresses, which he describes as a wish on the King's part to drain the country of its purest blood, or to pollute it by 'the admixture of the impure dregs of aliens.' . . . Many of the Savoyard and Vaudois gentlemen of their suite settled in England at this epoch, and the names of several of them, especially the Grandson, Butiller, La Flechère, &c., were, with slight change, perpetuated in the families of the Grandisons, Butlers, and Fletchers. The connexion of Savoy with France and England continued in later times, and the Princes of Savoy for a long time found themselves at home in London no less than in Paris."

In discussing the wars of the Counts of Savoy, in the thirteenth century, against Dauphiny and Genevois, which lasted eighty years, Signor Gallenga, refraining from their tedious and unimportant details, gives us the following good historical generalisation:—

"They were made up of petty skirmishes and petty sieges,—forays and 'cavalades,' as they were called,—interrupted now and then by a short truce, by an abortive attempt at mediation; now by some officious neighbours, now by some members themselves of the belligerent families, now by the sovereigns of France or England, by the Emperor or by the Pope. There was often as little cause for the outbreak as for the cessation of hostilities. They originated sometimes in mere border-forays, such as minstrels loved to sing,—'a Percy out of mere bravado sallied forth to kill game in the forests of a Douglas.' Each party sallied forth, generally in the spring, the lord at the head of his Ban or feudal militia, a force bound to serve only for a limited period, seldom exceeding two months. He rode over the enemy's territory, laid the lands waste, plundered the defenceless peasantry, and endeavoured, either by surprise or siege, to possess himself of some strong castle of the enemy. The latter, who was busy at a similar work of destruction on the other side, would sometimes hasten to the defence of his own territory, when an encounter became possible. The war was, however, more commonly a drawn game, and anything like a decisive action seemed to be studiously avoided on either side. Presently the time appointed for the service of bounden retainers expired. The feudal host went asunder; the wintry season set in and with it the time for negotiation. A stray emperor, a pontiff, or even a prince of minor rank but of royal title, happened to pass through, and by his interference gave those interminable diplomatic quibbles something like zest and importance. The contending parties were all nearly related to each other; originally of kindred blood, most probably, but at any rate closely connected by intermarriages in almost every generation. Among the items of those pacific transactions, a marriage was almost invariably contemplated; in some instances even a double or even quadruple alliance. Sometimes they would go the length of a solemn betrothal. A new bride, a mere child perhaps, would be conveyed to her future wedded home, there to be educated according to the usages and manners of the country of her adoption. Then the bridegroom would conceive a distaste for her, or possibly, show an inclination for some other person; more often—for the heart had no great share in those princely arrangements—political circumstances were altered: the proposed union no longer entered into the views of one of the contracting parties: the match sud-



denly broke off, and the young princess, still a betrothed bride, repudiated ere she was wedded, was sent back to her parents to aggravate old enmities,—a propitiatory victim, who became the cause of fresh animosity and revenge.—There was thus peace and war every year. . . . Some idea of the nature of these wars may be gathered from the fact that Amadeus V., a man indeed of rare activity, and not ill-qualified by his character for that surname of *the Great*, which probably at first his mere stature had won for him, is said to have been present at thirty-two sieges. The hostilities raged with but rare interruption during the thirty years of his reign. . . . There are pleasant features occasionally to be met with in the midst of the dull sameness of those never-ending feudal wars; instances of a certain knightly loyalty and uprightness, showing that emulation and punctiliousness had fully as great a share as malice or rapacity in bringing those rival families into the field! The subject of dispute was often referred to the arbitration of what might be considered an interested party, and a sense of justice seemed generally to prevail over all considerations of personal or dynastic interest. Thus it was, for instance, that Philip of Savoy, while yet Archbishop of Lyons, put an end to the long wars between his brother Peter and the Courts of Geneva in 1250, and the latter were fain to abide by the decision of one so nearly related to their adversary. In the same manner, after his peace with Amadeus III. of Geneva, Aymon of Savoy showed the most magnanimous confidence towards his humbled enemy, and the latter worthily requited it. Aymon entrusted to the Genevese Count, together with Louis of Vaud, the guardianship of his son, the Green Count, during a long minority; and those two princes who might have proved formidable foes to the young heir, most faithfully watched over his interests."

It was to Emanuel Philibert, in the sixteenth century, that Piedmont owed her reconstruction and nationalisation. He was a despot by necessity, as well as by choice;—despotism was then the fate of Europe,—an irresistible evil, by which alone the consolidation of states could be effected. Emanuel Philibert was bent on turning his country into a camp. The Piedmontese, and still more the Savoyards, had to be made soldiers, if the country was to be competent to a place in Europe. Military regulations of Draconic severity were drawn up, and enforced with terrible constancy. But, while other princes coerced their people by foreign hirelings, Emanuel relied on the willingness of his own people thus to be disciplined to order at home and to enterprise abroad. Nor was the army his only, though his chief, concern. He was a wise legislator—and made the Roman law the basis of his Codes. He created a senate in Piedmont, and one in Savoy,—giving them the right to register the laws, without which registration the decrees of the King were not to be valid. He restocked the desolate lands of Piedmont with labourers; he opened factories, and induced able foreign workmen to settle in his States. He reorganised the University of Turin; and opened lyceums and schools. And so it came to pass that, notwithstanding heavy taxes on the people, and rough manners to the nobles, he became truly the patriotic creator of the country, which now delights to look back to the "grand heroic figure" he makes in her history.—And now we may introduce the following extract, which, how partially all may see, draws the portrait of this great prince.

"His was a character almost without a flaw. With that figure contemporary records have made us sufficiently familiar; his stature somewhat below the middle size, the broad shoulders, the naturally delicate frame injured to great hardships by early military training, the cold grey eye, the arched brow, the slightly protruding nether lip, the fair curly hair, the short thick beard, not streaked with silver immature age, the small round head—the 'Iron-head.' All is known to us, even to the nether limbs somewhat bent outwardly, 'all' Escolina, as the Italians have it, a blemish which he turned to good account, since 'no man ever had a more firm or elegant seat on the saddle.'—We are equally acquainted with his habits; his strict and sparing distribution of time, the account he kept of it in a diary, the five hours he allowed himself for sleep, the few minutes at table, his hard fare, exclusively made up of strong meats and stronger Spanish wines; his way of transacting business, always standing for ever pacing up and down his garden, always bareheaded, even in the sun, mist, or rain; always with his sword, not hanging by his side, after the common fashion, but tight under his arm, ready for immediate use, his sword, without which he never left his apartment. Then his manners, grave but courteous, 'graceful beyond the common order of mankind;' his quick, laconic answers; his sudden flashes of anger, always under control of a long-trying temper; his hatred of falsehood or pusillanimity; his horror of bloodshed or capital punishment; his strict fulfilment of his engagements; the sacredness of his word, which he pledged 'as a gentleman, not as a courtier.'—then his unwearied energy and activity—activity of body, which could not be exhausted by six hours' play at ball, nor by a nine hours' run after the stag in the woods and mountains of Bresse, where he was almost alone in at the death, having distanced the one hundred and fifty men of his retinue, and where, on putting up for the evening, at a farm-house, he would snatch the hatchet from the good man who was splitting wood for his supper, and bustle about till the repast was ready, then, hardly allowing himself five minutes at table, he again sallied forth into the field, and beguiled the hours by shooting at a target, or by other manly games till late in the night, to the great wonder and dismay of the sleek long-robed Venetian [Morozoni] who had scampered after him in the chase, and who, with all the rest of the company, was now hardly able to stand.—Again, his activity of mind, which found no sufficient employment in political or military studies, but was equally turned on mathematics, mechanics, the arts, alchemy; that activity which dispensed with the services of the three secretaries he had in his pay, and

enabled him to carry on his correspondence almost unaided; partly owing, no doubt, to a certain fastidiousness which rarely satisfied him with any man's doings but his own, and also to that extreme cautiousness which prompted him to take no man into his intimacy, and on account of which he would suffer no valet about him who could read.—Such was Emanuel Philibert,—the restorer, the second founder of the State of Piedmont."

We shall not proceed with Signor Gallenga to later times: but we are much mistaken if our extracts do not incline our readers to see his book for themselves. Just now, it has special claims and peculiar interest.

#### BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

*The Bush-Boys*; by Captain MAYNE REID. With 12 Illustrations. London: D. Bogue.—[Captain Mayne Reid needs no introduction to our readers: we expect he is with them, as with us, an established favourite. His new book has all his old merits; and is written better than any of its predecessors. It tells the story of the adventures and misadventures of the family of a Cape boor and trek-farmer, in the wild karroos of Southern Africa. The characters are not neglectfully distinguished, in the hope that the abundant incident may sustain the interest of the book:—they are full of life and individuality. The incident is natural and probable in itself; although its combination, in such variety and wonderfulness, is plainly fanciful. As in his former books, Captain Mayne Reid makes his story, not merely an interesting picture of life in strange and wild scenes, but also, the vehicle of a large amount of accurate information in natural history. No one surpasses him in the union of the instructive with the pleasant and even the extravagant: and the boy who puts down this volume after a breathless reading for his own delight, will find himself master of a vast deal of knowledge about African zoology. It is seldom that a man of the author's literary powers has led such a life of adventure as he has; and rare enough, for a man having such stores of culture and adventure to devote himself to books for boys! The dedication of this volume to the children of Kossuth, spoken of as "an old friend," reminds us that there are solid virtues and noble deeds, besides literary ability and success, hereafter to be represented by the name of Captain Mayne Reid.]—*Lady Mary and her Nurse*; or, *a Peep into the Canadian Forest*. By Mrs. TRAILL. With Illustrations. London: A. Hall and Co.—[The authoress of "The Canadian Crusoes," and one of the Strickland sisters, will be recognised in Mrs. Traill; whose delightful pen we again welcome, and congratulate our young friends on its produce. The story of the book is simple, sweet, and beautifully pervaded by cheerful piety. It is the means of introducing facts in natural history, which are extremely interesting and well-told:—so that the book does for the Canadian forest and its comparatively innocent animal inhabitants, what Captain Mayne Reid has done for the wild and savage occupants of the African Bush;—the difference between the books being just that which marks off the lady-settler from the soldier-hunter. "The History of a Squirrel Family," which is a story within a story, is a charming piece of writing; in which imagination and truth to nature are remarkably combined. The young reader of this book will leave it sensibly happier, wiser, and better—unless hopeless insusceptibility in him defy Mrs. Traill's wise and gentle charming.]—*Holidays at the Cottage*; or, *a Visit to Aunt Susan*. Edinburgh: Shepherd and Elliott.—[We fancy this must be a first effort. It is rather medleyish; but shows some skill in managing conversations and telling stories. Sometimes it is prosy, sometimes silly; its religiousness is somewhat cold and formal; and the writer seems to have had a desire to bring forward everything she knew. Yet it is good and pleasant in its episodes of story; so that a young girl, reading it piecemeal, would be likely to think it a nice book.]—*Mary Mathieson*; or, *Duties and Difficulties*. Edinburgh: Oliphant and Sons.—[This is a very different sort of book from the preceding; yet it, too, is perhaps, a first effort. It has its constructive defects; but has an air of truth and reality which makes one almost think it a veritable autobiography. It is written with spirit, energy, and gracefulness. It shows quick perceptions, genuine feelings, an experienced knowledge of life, and a cultivated and religious mind. It is a clever and interesting story; and beautifully develops and carries home a moral, without any preaching at all about it. It is just such fiction as is suited to young ladies in their 'teens—not for those younger, while it may prove too simple for those older. We like the book ourselves, and recommend it heartily.]—*The Mingled Yarn*. By ELIZA SMITH, author of "Battles of the Bible," &c. Edinburgh: Moodie and Co.—[Edinburgh seems to be the great seat of religious fiction—here is the third book of the class published there, and a fourth is to come, in our present batch. Perhaps general novels are so far disallowed, that these compromises are indulged in by more than the really young. This volume belongs very decidedly to the class of compromises we refer to. Yet it is not without merit in description, is unambitious in plan and manner, and is true to its moral—in exhibiting Prosperity without Peace, and Adversity without Pain.]—*Unconscious Influence*; or, *Horace and May*. By CATHERINE D. BELL, Author of "Hope Campbell," &c. Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy.—[We are sure this author is no stranger to those who will look down this column. Her "Hope Campbell" lately pleased us very much, and we gave it a word of warm praise. This volume is especially for young ladies; and

we know no piece of recent religious fiction so likely to do its young reader an appreciable and enduring amount of good. The author gains in literary practice; and here both shows the possession of richer materials, and displays more art in employing them. The story is every way well-sustained, and thoroughly engaging in its interest; but owes none of its power to excitements or sentimentalities. Its circumstances and events are natural; and it is thoroughly intelligent and healthy in its spirit. The young reader is not unnerved, by morbid pathos or sickly pietism—as is too often the case with religious novels; but is *nerved*, for a life of self-sacrifice and helpfulness to others. The serious suggestions which lie in the words "Unconscious Influence," and the duty of being aware of all their significance, could hardly be better illustrated, or more persuasively enforced.]—*Casper*. By A. B. WARNER, author of "My Brother's Keeper." London: Knight and Son.—[Of course, the author will be recognised as sister to the author of the "Wide, Wide World." This is a book for the quite young; and a very delightful one they will find it. Poor little "Casper" is destined to become one of the universally recognised friends and special favourites of our children, we are quite persuaded. Miss Warner has uncommon talent for writing for children,—her vivacious descriptions, and distinct vivid pictures, thoroughly rivet the attention; and through them there flows into the mind of the little reader or listener, a sweet pure stream of genial feeling and instructive truth. By all means let this beautiful little story find entrance into every household.]—*Jeanne de Vaudreuil*; or, *Reconciliation*. Translated from the French. London: J. Nisbet and Co.—[A book that has really good description, fine feeling, and deep, true thought: but as a whole, is wearying, and leaves but a confused impression on the mind. As a tale it is not good; but it contains a great many good things, and discloses considerable powers. It is published with the sanction and revision of the (French) author's family; and one almost suspects that it is translated, at all, on personal rather than on literary grounds. Yet, be it plainly said, that it is vastly superior, in intellectuality and tone, to a large part of its own class of books.]

*Peace in War*. In Memoriam L. R. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

HERE are some thirty pages of verses, which are something more than the minor and fugitive poetry of the day, to which they at first appear to belong. The authors evidently follow Tennyson as their master; and with a true participation in his spirit, as well as a genuine reflection of his manner. The Laureate himself might have written some of these fine lines. We have intimated that there is more than one author—and believe we are correct in saying so; but we will not pretend to the supersubtlety which would distinguish and assign the authorship of the poems severally. These pages tell a story—one of how many similar!—of the present war. It is a marriage morning, in an English village, in the year 1852. "the bride is ready, waiting to be led":—

"One among ten thousand stood that queenly wife;—  
Never soul less stained with earthly dross and strife;  
God's gifts full upon her, every step she took,  
Ringing out His praises from her mien and look;—  
Never child more gentle; self had not a thought;—  
Bearing all her glories as a thing of nought."

The chosen bridegroom "bears his country's sword"; they are "peaceful times at present"; but, ere long:—

"Hark to the cry of the land!  
It breaks on us near and far,  
First faintly, then loud and grand;  
It is war—it is war—it is war."

The soldier-husband goes forth to the Crimea, and to the fight. Unrepiningly the gentle bride acquiesced in the call of duty;—self-denyingly she surrendered him to his country's cause. But, not even resignation and faith can banish anguish and fear from a loving, yearning heart;—and so she faded, and still faded, in her loneliness.

"Oh! saddest, bravest heart! this strife  
Was a slow torturing death to thee.  
It took thine all. What more of life  
Was left but bitter misery?  
The quiet country where she lived  
Was stagnant to her burning heart;  
The summer harvests grew and thrived;  
They feel no change when we depart.  
So passed the weeks; they went and came  
With ceaseless footsteps. Were they slow  
Or quick? We know not, for the same  
Dull round has measure none to show.  
A week has gone—it seems a day;  
A day has passed—it might have been  
A week, a year. There is no way  
To mete the size of things unseen."

\* \* \* \* \*  
The winter came,—that winter;—none  
Will ever know until the end,  
What agonies were borne alone,  
What hearts it broke but could not bend.

\* \* \* \* \*  
But every bitter tale that spread  
Was so much capital of pain;  
The starving, frozen, dying dead,  
All, all were stamped upon her brain.  
But courage—letters come at least  
From him thou lovest—these give rest.  
Believe me too, the stormy East  
Will find its answer in the West.  
So passed the weeks and months; she knew  
That with them also passed her strength,  
And, slowly as the next year grew,  
So slowly came the truth at length,  
None knew it till too late, and she



All knowing, yet with steady hand  
Wrote not a line across the sea  
To weaken him, who should command.  
No word of selfish love is here;  
Duty is first;—not one shall say  
A woman's weakness made her fear  
She could not live with him away.  
Oh! strength and mystery of love,  
Too great and yet too weak in might!  
We dare not censure or approve  
That which is far above our sight."

They bore her to Malta, as a last resource; but she was already dying:—and after three days, piously and meekly obedient to the will she would not question, she died as one should die who has grace of heaven to "give up all bliss for duty." A sad and touching story; and tenderly and fitly told.

"Yes! we know the names  
Of the men who died  
In the bloody strife  
Upon Alma's side.  
England too knows how  
Those six hundred strong  
Gaily rode to death  
Through the Russian throng.  
Inkermann will fill  
One heroic page;  
Cathcart's name will pass  
To a coming age.  
Who can e'er forget  
How in that last strife  
Windham hour by hour  
Bore his charmed life?  
But we know not those  
Who in quiet parts  
Here in peace at home  
Faded with wounded hearts:  
Whose quick pulses beat  
One with him, the brave.—  
He is dead.—She carries  
Sad thoughts to the grave.  
England does not hear  
Half the ills of war;  
England does not know  
What her daughters are."

Perhaps these extracts will lead our readers to this little book; and they will then find that it contains more true poetry than we have been able to indicate in this brief notice.

### Gleanings.

It is stated that 60,000 copies of Mr. Caird's sermon on "Religion in Common Life" have been sold; that Mr. Caird has received 700*l.* from the publisher, and that it is his intention to apply the whole sum to the endowment of the Errol Females' Industrial School.

"It's a great blessing to possess what one wishes," said some one to an ancient philosopher, who replied, "It's a greater blessing still not to desire what one does not possess."

The *Plymouth Journal* says that "one of the late curates of St. Mary Church, not long since, in instructing the newly 'confirmed' how they were to deport themselves at the sacrament of our Lord's Supper, which he required them to attend, desired they would 'take the bread in their palms, lest, by an incautious handling between the finger and thumb, they should pinch Christ.'"

The imperishable, inexhaustible, unapproachable nature of love is shown in this—that all the millions of stupid love stories that have been written have not one whit abated the immortal interest that there is in the rudest and stupidest love story. Write so foolishly about anything else, and see what will happen. Try it upon theology, and see if twilight does not soon deepen into absolute darkness.—*Friends in Council.*

The following are a few anecdotes from "Recollections of the Table-talk of Samuel Rogers, to which is added Porsoniana," which is just now being reviewed by the literary journals:—

"To all letters soliciting his subscription to any thing Erskine had a regular form of reply, viz.—'Sir, I feel much honoured by your application to me, and I beg to subscribe'—here the reader had to turn over the leaf—'myself your very obedient servant, &c.'"

"When Lord Erskine heard that somebody had died worth 200,000*l.*, he observed, 'Well, that's a very pretty sum to begin the next world with.'"

"Dunning (afterwards Lord Ashburton) was 'stating the law' to a jury at Guildhall, when Lord Mansfield interrupted him by saying, 'If that be law, I'll go home and burn my books.' 'My lord,' replied Dunning, 'you had better go home and read them.'"

"Of the Duke's [Wellington] perfect coolness on the most trying occasions, Colonel Gurwood gave me this instance. He was once in great danger of being drowned at sea. It was bed-time, when the captain of the vessel came to him, and said, 'It will soon be all over with us.' 'Very well,' answered the duke, 'then I shall not take off my boots.'"

"Sydney Smith said that—was so fond of contradiction, that he would throw up the window in the middle of the night, and contradict the watchman who was calling the hour. When his physician advised him to 'take a walk upon an empty stomach,' Smith asked, 'Upon whose?' 'Lady Cork,' said Smith, 'was once so moved by a charity sermon, that she begged me to lend her a guinea for her contribution. I did so. She never repaid me, and spent it on herself.'"

"Lord Seaforth, who was born deaf and dumb, was to dine one day with Lord Melville. Just before the time of the company's arrival, Lady Melville sent into the drawing-room a lady of her acquaintance, who could talk with her fingers to dumb people, that she might receive Lord Seaforth. Presently Lord Guilford entered the room; and the lady, taking him for Lord Seaforth, began to ply her fingers very nimbly;

Lord Guilford did the same; and they had been carrying on a conversation in this manner for about ten minutes when Lady Melville joined them. Her female friend immediately said, 'Well, I have been talking away to this dumb man.'—'Dumb!' cried Lord Guilford; 'bless me, I thought you were dumb.' I told this story (which is perfectly true) to Matthews; and he said that he could make excellent use of it at one of his evening entertainments: but I know not if ever he did."

### Obituary.

PROFESSOR MENZIES, of Edinburgh University, who had filled the chair of Conveyancing since 1847, died on Wednesday, from an attack of fever.

LORD BAGOT.—The venerable Lord Bagot died on Tuesday last, at Blithfield House, his seat, in Staffordshire. The deceased was born in September, 1773, and was consequently in his eighty-third year.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK has lately been residing at his seat in Sussex. He was out riding on Saturday; on his return to Arundel Castle he was seized with illness, at the same time losing the faculty of speech, which he never recovered. He died at three o'clock on Monday morning. The deceased Duke of Norfolk, Henry Charles Howard, was son of the twelfth duke, and born in 1791. In 1814 he married the eldest daughter of the Duke of Sutherland. He sat in the House of Commons for a time as member for Hordham, and subsequently for the western division of the county of Sussex, until June, 1841, when he was summoned to the House of Lords as Baron Maltravers, one of the titles of his father. His public life, however, belongs less to politics than to the history of the court with which he was officially connected for nearly the whole of the last twenty years. The late peer is succeeded by his son, Henry Granville Fitz-Alan Howard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey. His lady, now Duchess of Norfolk, is the youngest daughter of Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons. The death of the duke places a ribbon of the Garter at the disposal of Her Majesty.

ABRAHAM THE VOCALIST.—On Sunday last a musician who may be said to have formed a connecting link between the men of the present generation and their grandfathers breathed his last. Seldom has there been so remarkable a case of professional longevity as that of Mr. John Abraham. There is scarcely a person living too old or too young to have heard him sing. Born in London in 1774, of parents of the Hebrew persuasion, he is one of the many instances of that aptitude of the Jewish race for music which can scarcely have escaped the notice of any observer of the present day. He made his *début* at Covent-garden in 1801. This is the point from which may be dated that triumphant career during which he created a constant *furor*, the effect of which has lasted in some degree even to the present day. Long after his voice had lost its original power he was successively engaged at several theatres on the strength of a reputation which seemed undying, and his proficiency in singing Handel's music was universally acknowledged when his career as a dramatic vocalist had reached its termination. While his success as a vocalist was without precedent, Mr. Abraham was also renowned as a composer. Not only did he write several of the most popular songs, but he composed a tolerably long list of entire operas, as they were called in their time, though, according to present notions, they were merely dramas, interspersed with occasional songs. Of these the most celebrated were perhaps the *Cabinet* and the *Devil's Bridge*, relics of which will be found in every old-fashioned book.

### BIRTHS.

Feb. 13, at Ipswich, the wife of the Rev. Wm. CAMPBELL, of a daughter.

Feb. 13, the wife of Mr. GEORGE COOK, of Flitwick-wood Farm, Amptill, of a daughter.

Feb. 14, in South Audley-street, the Lady ADELAIDE CADOGAN, of a daughter.

Feb. 15, at No. 6, Park-square, Regent's-park, the wife of PETER NORTHALL LAURIE, Esq., of a daughter.

Feb. 16, the wife of the Rev. THOMAS AVELING, of Kingsland, of a son.

Feb. 17, at Tunstall House, Warwick-road, Paddington, the wife of JOSEPH RODNEY CROOKER, Esq., United States Consul for Southampton and Coves, of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

Feb. 5, at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, by the Lord Bishop of Worcester, uncle to the bride, EDWARD PRIEST RICHARDS, Esq., of Plasnewydd, Glamorganshire, to HARRIET GEORGINA, eldest daughter of Admiral Sir GEORGE TYLER, M.P., of Cottrell, in the same county.

Feb. 9, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Mr. Wm. SCANLAN, of Alfred-street, Bedford-square, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late Mr. JOSEPH TURPIN, of Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope.

Feb. 12, by licence, at the Independent Chapel, Ashton Keynes, Wilts, by the Rev. J. Stratford, Mr. JOHN NICHOLLS, of the Old Manor House, to LUCY SUSANNAH, fourth daughter of Mr. GEORGE FREETH, of Bourne Lake, Cricklade.

Feb. 13, at Abney Chapel, by the Rev. J. Jefferson, Mr. ISAAC BUTLER, jun., of Stoke Newington, to SARAH, second daughter of Wm. AYTON, Esq., Stamford-hill.

Feb. 14, at the Wesleyan Association Chapel, Lever-street, Manchester, by the Rev. A. Gilbert, Mr. T. RUSHWORTH, to EMMA, daughter of Mr. J. WHYAT, all of Manchester.

Feb. 14, at St. Bartholomew's, Salford, by the Rev. J. Moore, M.A., Incumbent, Mr. J. SIDEBOTHAM, of Salford, to MARY, daughter of the late Mr. R. HEAP, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

### DEATHS.

Feb. 10, at Levington, Grace, Countess of FARNHAM, in her ninetieth year.

Feb. 12, HANNAH, the beloved wife of the Rev. Dr. REDFORD, of Worcester, in her sixty-ninth year.

Feb. 13, at Ashton-under-Lyne, Mrs. MARK WILKS, aged twenty-six.

Feb. 14, at 33, Milton-street, Dorset-square, Mr. JOHN WILLIAMS, in his seventy-third year, and in the sixtieth year of his official connexion with H.M. George III's Library, now in the British Museum.

Feb. 14, at 15, Barton-street, Westminster, Mrs. MARGARET SHOTTEN, in her seventieth year, much respected by many of the Westminster scholars for the last thirty years.

Feb. 16, at Woodside, Whetstone, MABELLA, wife of H. BIRLEY, Esq., of Manchester, aged thirty-five.

At the residence of his daughters, 16, Cottage-grove, Mile-end, Mr. SAMUEL SAUNDERS, youngest son of the late Rev. THOMAS SAUNDERS, of Vicar-lane, Coventry, aged sixty-seven.

## Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The notice received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer relative to the new loan, took every one by surprise on the Stock Exchange on Friday. Consols had opened at 91½ to 92, and immediately on the appearance of the notice they declined to 91. Large sales were then actively pressed, and the downward movement continued until the price touched 90, from which there was scarcely any recovery, the final transactions being at 90 to 91 for money and 90½ to 91 for the account. On Saturday, however, there was a slight tendency to recovery, and when the small amount of the loan was announced, there was an advance in Consols to 90½ to 91 and 91½ to 92 for the account. To-day, the funds were rather lower in price, closing ¼ to ½ per cent. below the final quotations of yesterday. This fall is attributable to extensive sales made throughout the day in preparation for the new loan. No other firm than that of Messrs. N. M. Rothschild and Sons has invited subscriptions from the public. They propose to tender for both the 5,000,000*l.* loan and the funding, and that all applications will be considered as joint applications. The public are thus invited to subscribe for the whole eight millions. Notwithstanding a general demand for money to make the deposit, no pressure was experienced to-day. In Lombard-street the supply of money on offer was liberal. In the Stock Exchange the current rates were 6 to 7 per cent. upon Government securities.

The arrivals of gold last week have been to the extent of 600,000*l.* The shipments comprise 271,000*l.*, of which 200,000*l.* went to the East, one half being on account of the Turkish loan.

The amount of specie and bullion shipped on board the Alma, which will leave Southampton to-morrow for Alexandria, is no less than 487,083*l.*, of which only 8,470*l.* is in gold, and the remaining 478,613*l.* entirely in silver.

Andrew Jackson and Son, corn-merchants, Glasgow, have stopped payment, with bills afloat to the amount of from 70,000*l.* to 80,000*l.* Bad debts and falling markets are assigned as the cause.

The reports of the manufacturing trade of the country during the past week are satisfactory. At Manchester there has been a very considerable extent of business, especially in yarns. From Birmingham it is stated that the iron market has been in some degree affected by the uncertainties connected with American politics, and that, although the home demand is steady, there has been a slight tendency to lower prices. The general trades of the place continue to be fairly supported, but the orders from abroad have, upon the whole, been scarcely so large as was expected. The Chamber of Commerce have just adopted two resolutions, one in favour of Mr. Lowe's bill for the abolition of local dues on shipping, on the necessity of which it is said there is perfect unanimity throughout the midland districts, and the other in favour of the Bank of England granting facilities for transfers and dividends from their branch banks. The Nottingham advices are encouraging, and the only point of complaint is the scarcity of hands. In the clothing districts there has been an increased business at higher rates owing to the advance in the prices of wool and indigo. In the Irish linen market caution has been created by the state of the American question, but quotations are steady, and confidence in future prospects generally undiminished.

### PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Consols	92½ 1½	92½ 2	90½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1
Consols for Account	92½ 1	92½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1
3 per Cent. Red.	92½ 1	92½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1	90½ 1
New 3 per Cent.	93 1	93½ 3	91 1	91½ 1	91½ 1	91½ 1
Annuities	—	—	225 224	—	223	225
India Stock	—	—	215 13	—	213½	214
Bank Stock	—	—	1 dis	5 dis	2 dis	3 dis
Exchequer-bills	7 dis	7 dis	3 dis	—	—	2 dis
India Bonds	—	—	—	3½	3½	—
Long Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—

### The Gazette.

#### BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, &c. the week ending on Saturday, the 9th day of Feb., 1856

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	£24,407,875
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,459,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	9,932,875
Silver Bullion	—
	£24,407,875

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,533,000
Reserve	3,492,620
Public Deposits	3,683,327
Other Deposits	13,049,256
Seven Day and other	798,031
Bills	—
	£25,576,134
	£25,576,134

Feb. 14, 1856.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

### Friday, February 15, 1856.

#### BANKRUPTS.

HALL, G. W., Bush-lane and Winchester-buildings, City, merchant, Feb. 26, March 27; solicitors, Messrs. Watson and Son, Moorgate-street, City.  
JOHNSON, T., Kensington Gravel-pits, Notting-hill, victualler, Feb. 26, March 28; solicitors, Messrs. Dimmock and Bursbey, Suffolk-lane, City.  
WILLIAMS, A., and HOLLAND, W. M., Duncan-street, White-



chapel, wholesale grocers, Feb. 28, March 28; solicitors, Messrs. Hill and Mathews, Bury-court, St. Mary-axe.

ROBINSON, W. B., Red Cross-square, Cripplegate, mourning hatband manufacturer, March 4, April 1; solicitors, Messrs. Cooper and Hodgson, Verulam-buildings, Gray's-Inn.

COBHAM, G. F., Milton-next-Gravesend, Kent, carpenter, Feb. 27, April 5; solicitors, Mr. Barnard, Carnaby-street, Golden-square; and Mr. Pearson, Gravesend.

DAVIES, P., Aberkenfig, Glamorganshire, grocer, Feb. 27, April 5; solicitors, Messrs. Laurence and Co., Old Jewry-chambers, City.

HUMPHREYS, C., Fenny Compton, Warwickshire, victualler, March 5 and 31; solicitors, Messrs. Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.

BRAMICH, T., Harborne, Staffordshire, corn dealer, Feb. 25, March 31; solicitors, Messrs. Chaplin and Co., Birmingham.

PINNIGER, A., Lydney, Gloucestershire, draper, March 3 and 31; solicitor, Mr. Wilkes, Gloucester.

GOUTSTONE, W., Bedminster and Bristol, house agent, Feb. 26, March 31; solicitors, Messrs. Abbot and Lucas, Bristol.

WOOD, J., and WOOD, W., Mill Bridge, Yorkshire, machine makers, March 3 and 31; solicitors, Mr. Sykes, Heckmondwike; and Mr. Harle, Leeds.

JONES, H. M., Liverpool, merchant, Feb. 28, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool.

### Tuesday, February 19, 1856.

WHITTINGHAM, A., Woolwich, Kent, and Old Kent-road, outfitter, March 4, April 1; solicitors, Messrs. Overbury and Peck, Frederick-place, Old Jewry.

WHITE, J., Brentwood, Essex, carpenter, March 1, April 5; solicitor, Mr. Preston, New Broad-street.

TUNNICLIFFE, J., Bishopsgate-street, City; Tottenham, Middlesex, and South Eastern Arcade, Southwark, baker, March 7, April 1; solicitors, Messrs. Smith and Alliston, Warrford-court, Throgmorton-street.

SHIMON, F. L., Cullum-street, City, merchant, Feb. 28, April 4; solicitor, Mr. Nicholson, Lime-street, City.

WOLF, C., St. Paul's-churchyard and Ludgate-hill, City; Crosby-row, Walworth-road, and Surrey Zoological Gardens, cook and confectioner, Feb. 29, March 28; solicitor, Mr. Surman, New-square, Lincoln's-Inn.

WELCH, W., Birmingham, packing-case maker, Feb. 29, March 29; solicitor, Mr. Smith, Birmingham.

EDGE, J., Kidderminster, Worcestershire, carpet manufacturer, Feb. 29, March 29; solicitors, Mr. Boycott, Kidderminster; and Messrs. Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.

STURTON, T., and KEY, E., Holbeach, Lincolnshire, scriveners, March 4, April 15; solicitor, Mr. Thompson, Grantham.

DAVIS, D. P., Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, general shop keeper, Feb. 25, March 31; solicitors, Messrs. Brittan and Son, Bristol; and Mr. Roach, Merthyr Tydfil.

MASSA, W., Sheffield, Yorkshire, hatter, March 8, April 12; solicitor, Mr. Unwin, Sheffield.

BANN, T., Liverpool, clothier, March 3 and 24; solicitor, Mr. Stead, Manchester.

ANDREW, H., Tyldesley, Lancashire, shopkeeper, March 6, April 3; solicitor, Mr. Livett, Manchester.

## Markets.

### CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 18.

The supply of wheat from Essex this morning was small, and moderate from Kent. Fine dry samples met with more buyers, at an advance of fully 1s per quarter upon last Monday's prices; for foreign there was likewise a better inquiry, and a similar advance was paid. Norfolk flour reader sale; and American barrels met with more attention at last Monday's prices. Barley sold at last week's quotations. Beans and peas without material alteration. We had a small arrival of oats, and the trade was firmer, and prices 6d to 1s per quarter higher than on Monday last. Linseed and cakes unaltered. Tares rather cheaper. In cloverseeds little doing.

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—	s. d.	Wheat	s. d.
Essex and Kent, Red	88 to 74	Dantzic	80 to 88
Do. White	74 78	Konigsberg, Red	74 82
Line, Norfolk, and		Pomeranian, Red	78 82
Yorkshire Red		Roostock	78 82
Scotch	68 76	Danish and Holstein	74 80
Eye	50 52	East Friesland	70 72
Barley malting (new)	38 42	Petersburg	68 74
Distilling	34 36	Riga and Archangel	
Malt (pale)	78 80	Polish Ouzess	64 66
Beans, Mazagan	37 44	Marianopol	80 82
Ticks		Taganrog	
Harrow		Egyptian	50 52
Pigeon		American (U.S.)	70 80
Peas, White	46 48	Barley, Pomeranian	35 36
Grey	35 38	Konigsberg	
Maple	35 38	Danish	35 38
Boilers	48 50	East Friesland	28 30
Tares (English)	40 56	Egyptian	28 30
Foreign	40 56	Odesa	28 30
Oats (English feed)	21 26	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	38 40
Sack of 280 lbs.	66 67	Pigeon	38 42
Linseed, English	68 70	Egyptian	34 36
Baltic	68 70	Peas, White	42 47
Black Sea	68 70	Oats—	
Hempseed	50 52	Dutch	23 28
Canaryseed	56 60	Jahde	23 28
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Danish	31 34
112 lbs. English	58 80	Danish, Yellow feed	24 27
German		Swedish	24 25
French		Petersburg	24 25
American		Flour, per bar. of 190 lbs.	
Linseed cakes, 167 lbs to 167 10s		New York	35 40
Rape Cake, 77 lbs to 77 10s per ton		Spanish, per sack	57 54
Rapeseed, 387 lbs to 401 0s per last		Carawayseed	36 40

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 18.—The inquiry for clover and other seeds is so inconsiderable that as yet no amount of business can be noted; buyers continuing cautious, and deferring commencing purchases until the actual requirements must be filled up; prices of all descriptions continue firm.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9½d to 10d; of household ditto, 8d to 9½d per 4 lbs loaf.

### BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 18.

Amongst the foreign stock in to-day's market were 300 oxen from Oporto in fair condition; but the aggregate supply was limited. From our own grazing districts, the receipts of beasts fresh up this morning were moderate, but most of them came to hand in good condition. The weather being more favourable for slaughtering, the beef trade ruled somewhat active, at an advance in the quotations paid on Monday last of 2d per cwt. The primest Scotch readily produced 4s 8d per cwt. The arrivals from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire were 2,150 Scotch and short-horns; from other parts of England, 400 of various breeds; from Ireland, 200 oxen, via Liverpool; and from Scotland, 500 Scotch. We were but moderately supplied with sheep as to number; but there were very few inferior breeds amongst them. The number of shorn sheep was about 1,000. The mutton trade ruled active, at 2d per 8 lbs above the currencies realised on this day's night. The best old Downs in the wool realised 4s 10d, out of the wool, 4s 4d per 8 lbs. The show of calves was very limited, and the veal trade ruled brisk, at 4d per 8 lbs above last Monday's quotations. The best calves realised 6s per 8 lbs. There was a slightly improved demand for pigs, at full quotations.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offal.				s. d. s. d.			
Inf. coarse beasts	3	0	3	2	Pr. coarsewoolled	4	0
Second quality	3	4	3	8	Prime Southdown	4	6
Prime large oxen	3	10	4	4	Lge. coarse calves	4	8
Prime Scotch, &c.	4	6	4	8	Prime small	5	6
Coarse inf. sheep	3	0	3	4	Large hogs	3	6
Second quality	3	6	3	10	Neat sm. porkers	4	4
Butchling calves, 72s to 79s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 31s to 38s each.							

### NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Feb. 18.

The supplies of meat on sale in our markets continue seasonably good. There is, however, a slight improvement in the general demand, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.				s. d. s. d.			
Inferior beef	2s	6d	to 2s	10d	Inf. mutton	2s	6d
Middling ditto	3s	0d	3s	4d	Middling ditto	3s	0d
Prime large	3s	6d	3s	8d	Prime ditto	3s	6d
Do. small	3s	10d	4s	0d	Do. small	3s	10d
Large pork	3s	2d	3s	10d	Small pork	4s	0d

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 18.—Business to a fair extent was transacted in Irish butter last week. Holders were less anxious to force sales. The market, therefore, presented a rather more healthy appearance, and prices for some descriptions were the turn dearer. Best foreign sold freely—Friesland at a decline of 4s, Kiel at about previous rates. Inferior descriptions were only saleable in retail, and mostly on buyers' terms. In bacon the demand was dull. The dealings landed and on board were few and unimportant, and prices not well supported. Hams were very sparingly dealt in. Lard was in limited request, and prices inclined downwards.

### PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

Friesland, per cwt.	122 to 128	Cheshire (new) per cwt	70 to 84
Kiel	100 120	Cheddar	74 90
Dorset	110 120	Double Gloucester	66 72
Carlton	108 112	Single ditto	60 70
Waterford	98 102	York Hams	90 108
Cork (new)	100 112	Westmoreland ditto	94 104
Limerick	98 102	Irish ditto	80 90
Sligo	94 108	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	70 72
Fresh, per dozen	13 17	Irish (green)	60 64

### PRODUCE MARKET, MINING-LANE, FEB. 19.

SUGAR.—The low prices of this article have induced a few speculators to come into the market; and these, added to the home dealers, have caused a large business to have been done to-day at an advance of 6d to 1s. In the private contract market the large quantity of 1,280 hhds sold, the refiners having bought largely; 15,800 bags of Mauritius were offered in public sale, and all found buyers at 32s 6d to 43s 6d. 2,000 bags Madras were also offered, and all sold steadily, 30s to 31s. The refined market has also advanced about 1s; grocery lumps, 49s.

COFFEE.—250 sacks plantation Ceylon were offered and went off heavily; a part only sold, 58s 6d to 62s. 170 cases of Tellicherry were offered and all bought in, 62s to 62s 6d. 80 bales Mocha, imported from Alexandria, sold at 52s 6d to 71s.

TEA.—The market continues inactive. Common congou quoted firm at 9d, regular terms.

RICE.—We are without transactions to report to-day. RUM has been in improved demand, and prices have advanced 1d. Demerara proof sold at 2s 4d.

SALTPETRE.—90 bags Madras, refraction 14½, were bought in at 28s.

COTTON.—300 bales sold at full prices.

INDIGO (6th day).—860 chests passed auction to-day. The total quantity now passed is 5,840, of which 3,920 have been sold. The sale to-day consisted chiefly of ordinary Oudes, Bengal, and Madras, and went off without animation; but we do not alter last week's quotations.

METALS.—Iron: Scotch pig is quoted 66s to 66s 6d; spelter firm at 23½ 15s.

NITRATE OF SODA.—100 tons were offered, and bought in at 18s, 18s 6d.

TALLOW remains quoted at 59s to 59s 3d, on the spot. In other articles no material alteration.

POTATOES, BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 18.—Although the arrivals of potatoes, coastwise and by railway, during the past week, have been less extensive than of late, the trade is in a very depressed state, and prices have a downward tendency. York regents, 90s to 100s; Kent and Essex ditto, 80s to 90s; Scotch ditto, 70s to 80s; ditto cups, 55s to 70s; middlings, 60s; Lincolns, 70s to 80s; blues, 60s to 70s per ton.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Feb. 18.—A moderate business is doing in choice qualities of hops, for which prices continue steady at about the rates of last week. Inferior and brown hops are very dull of sale, and prices for such descriptions are considerably lower.

WOOL, CITY, Monday, Feb. 18.—The extreme firmness with which the colonial wool sales are going off—the advance in the quotations being 2d to 2½d per lb—has had considerable influence upon the English wool market, and it is difficult to purchase any kind of home-grown wool unless at a further improvement in price.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Down tags and ewes	1	3	1	4
Half-bred hogs	1	2	1	3
Half-bred wethers	1	1	1	2
Kent fleeces (mixed)	1	1	1	2
Combining skin	0	10	1	2
Down ewes	1	2	1	3
Leicester fleeces	1	0	1	2
Flannel wool	1	0	1	2
Blanket wool	0	9	1	1

TALLOW, Monday, Feb. 18.—Our market is in a most uncertain state. The speculative price is now 8s to 10s above the actual value of the article. P.Y.C. on the spot is officially quoted at 60s per cwt.

	1852.	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.
Stock	Casks	Casks	Casks	Casks	Casks
	52785	38335	36952	37160	23117
Price of Yellow Candle	35s 3d	45s 0d	62s 0d	56s 6d	60s 0d
Delivery last Week	2480	2013	1480	2081	937
Ditto from the 1st of June	82913	76745	77438	60932	83947
Arrived last Week	1003		275	176	582
Ditto from the 1st of June	99163	74447	90775	62092	60592
Price of Town Tallow	38s 0d	46s 6d	64 63s	31 58s	60 53s

OILS, Monday, Feb. 18.—Linseed oil has sold slowly, at 33s 6d to 34s per cwt. Pale rape has moved off heavily at 45s, brown 46s. Coconut is quoted at 36s to 37s, and palm 40s to 41s. Cod, 47½ to 47½ 10s; ground nut, 45s; gingelly, 46s. Turpentine is steady, at full prices.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—The transactions in flax continue moderate, at about last week's quotations. We have had a dull sale for hemp. Petersburg clean is nominally quoted at 37½ per ton. Manila qualities have given way 3½ to 4½. Jute and coir goods are a slow sale.

### HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, Feb. 16.

Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.	0	2	0	0	per lb
Ditto 64 72 lbs.	0	3	0	4	
Ditto 72 80 lbs.	0	4	0	0	
Ditto 80 88 lbs.	0	4	0	4	
Ditto 88 96 lbs.	0	4	0	4	
Ditto 96 104 lbs.	0	0	0	0	
Horse Hides	6	0	0	0	each
Calf Skins, light	2	0	3	0	
Ditto full	7	0	0	0	
Polled Sheep	7	0	9	0	
Kents and Half Breds	6	0	7	0	
Downs	5	0	6	0	
Lambs	0	0	0	0	
Shearlings	0	0	0	0	

COALS, Monday.—Factors succeeded in getting an advance on Friday's sale. Stewart's, 18s 6d—Hetton's, 18s 6d—Kelloe, 18s—Eden, 17s—South Kelloe, 16s 6d—Wylam 15s—Hartley's, 18s—Tanfield, 18s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 94; left from last day, 50; total, 144.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Feb. 19.—The demand from the trade was small to-day, but the market was badly supplied with American, from 5½d to 6d per lb. At the close prices looked upwards. Americans were fully 1-16d dearer. The sales were 7,000 bales, 500 for export and 1,000 on speculation, comprising 220 Pernam and Maranham, at 6d to 6½d; 150 Egyptian, at 6½d to 7d; 500 Surat, at 4½d to 5d; and 80 Sea Islands, at 10d to 2s 6d per lb. Import since Thursday, 50,000 bales.

## Advertisements.

### CHAPPUIS' PATENT REFLECTORS.

Manufactory, 10, St. Mary-axe.

THE DAY LIGHT REFLECTORS diffuse light into dark places, and supersede gas during day time.

THE GAS REFLECTOR increases the light, and decrease the consumption of gas; may be seen in operation at the

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Every description of Reflectors for scientific, commercial, and domestic purposes, &c., &c.

### PIANOFORTE for SALE.—It is a very

powerful and brilliant-toned Cottage, in an elegant Rosewood Case, 6½ octaves, Metallic Plate, and it has all the very recent improvements; was new within four months, and will be sold at a low price for ready money. To be seen at 171, Bishopsgate-street West.

### MR. E. MILES, 14, BEDFORD-SQUARE

BLOOMSBURY, SURGEON-DENTIST, by appointment, to the Westminster Dispensary, supplies ARTIFICIAL TEETH of the best construction, fixed without pain, from 10s. 6d.; an upper or lower set ditto, from 5s. Stopping in a superior manner, 5s.; scaling, 5s.

### TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters

Patent. Newly Invented and Patented Application of Chemically Prepared White and Gum Coloured India Rubber, in the Construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.—MR. EPHRAIM MOSELY, Surgeon-Dentist, 61, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, Grosvenor-square, Sole Inventor and Patentee.

A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of CHEMICALLY PREPARED WHITE and GUM-COLOURED INDIA RUBBER, as a lining to the ordinary gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most prominent features: All sharp edges are avoided; no springs, wires, or fastenings are required; a greatly increased freedom of suction is supplied; a natural elasticity, hitherto wholly unattainable, and a fit, perfected with the most unerring accuracy, is secured, while, from the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose, or rendered tender by the absorption of the gums. The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically prepared white INDIA RUBBER, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of any temperature may, with thorough comfort be imbibed and retained in the mouth, all unpleasantness of smell and taste being at the same time wholly provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation. To be obtained only at 61, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, LONDON; 14, Gay-street, Bath; and 10, Eldon-square, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

### COALS, Best, 24s.—R. S. DIXON and

SON recommend the purchase of Coals for winter, as they do not anticipate any further reduction in price.—Providence Wharf, Belvidere-road, Lambeth.

### BEST COALS, 25s.—GAMMAN, SON, and

CARTER, are supplying STEWART'S WALLSEND COALS, thoroughly screened, within five miles of their Wharf, at the above price, for Cash on Delivery.

Store House Wharf, Ratcliff; and 1, Grove, Hackney.

### BEST COALS ONLY.—COCKERELL

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SHIPS will be AWARDED on this FOUNDATION after the EXAMINATION in NOVEMBER next, provided the Candidates are declared to be duly qualified by the Examiners.

The EXAMINATION will take place at UNIVERSITY HALL, LONDON, on MONDAY, the 17th, TUESDAY, the 18th, and WEDNESDAY, the 19th November, 1856. Each day from Ten to One and from Three to Six.



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**THE BEST and CHEAPEST TEAS** in England are to be obtained of **PHILLIPS and COMPANY, TEA MERCHANTS**, 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

This is a good time to buy TEA; when Parliament meets, it is almost certain we shall have an increase of duty to meet the expenses of the war.

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**ARE YOU ABOUT TO FURNISH?**

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An immense Stock of Bedding, Blankets, Sheetings, Counterpanes, Carpets, and Family Drapery just received from the Manufacturers.

Furniture Warehoused at a moderate charge, for families leaving Town or going abroad.

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**BERDOE'S VENTILATING WATER-PROOF CAPES and COATS** resist any amount of rain without obstructing free ventilation, and are adapted for general use at all times. Price 30s. to 50s.—96, New Bond-street, and 69, Cornhill.

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The **PELLISSIER OVERCOAT**, price 34s., invented and adapted for the Season. The Reversible Waistcoats, price 14s., buttoning four different sides. The 47s. Suits made to order, from Scotch, Heather, and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool, and thoroughly shrunk. The Two Guinea Dress or Frock Coats; the Guinea Dress Trousers; and the Half Guinea Waistcoats. N.B. A perfect fit guaranteed.

**NOTICE TO LADIES.—WINDING-UP of a LINENDRAPER'S COMPANY.—SELLING OFF** the Stock by Mr. STREETER, the Secretary, at 105 and 106, BOROUGH, NEXT WEEK.

Just unpacked, for next week's sale: 1,200 Counterpanes, from 2s. to 5s. each; 180 pair of Blankets, from 4s. 6d. to 10s. the pair; 280 pieces of Long Cloth, from 2s. to 3s. 9d. the dozen yards; 1,000 worth of Costly Damask Table Cloths, to be reduced more than half. Dresses, Shawls, &c.—470 pieces of Wool Barge, all 2½d. per yard; 1,140 pieces of Wakefield very best Delaine, 4½d. per yard (many having cost the Company 1s.). Several hundred Rich Silk Dresses, from 13s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. the Dress, the most costly being reduced to 21s.

This Great Stock (valued at 24,000l.) is now Selling Off under the direction of Mr. STREETER, the Secretary, on part of the premises of Brooks and Company, 105 and 106, Borough, Three Minutes' Walk straight from London Bridge.

N.B. Mr. STREETER will attend to same prices for large parcels to the trade, or persons disposed to buy whole pieces.

**THE SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.** 1,000 New Patterns to select from. The great Sale these Trousers have had since their first introduction is a guarantee that they have met with universal approbation.

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Every garment produced has that style and exquisite finish without pretence; in fact, that gracefulness and ease so rarely obtained, but by which the dress of the true gentleman is invariably distinguished.

Patterns, plate of fashion, and guide to self-measurement, sent free, of the **SYDENHAM TROUSERS**, and of every other description of Gentlemen's and Youth's Clothing.

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Ready-made Clothes equal to bespoke—an advantage not to be obtained at any other establishment.

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Treatises on the above free on receipt of a postage stamp.

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A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority, viz., A. S. TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

“Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, February 19, 1856.

“I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

“Messrs. ADNAM and Co.” (Signed) “A. S. TAYLOR.”

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Surgeon-Dentists to the Royal Family.

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They are fitted upon Messrs. Mogridge and Davis's CELEBRATED GOLD PLATES, which have stood the test of public opinion for twenty years, sanctioned by the MEDICAL BOARD, supplied to them by HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, as the only quality proper to be used for dental purposes, and have been noticed with the highest approbation by nearly all the leading Journals of Great Britain.

The public is most respectfully invited to an inspection of their numerous beautiful specimens in sets and partial pieces, suitable to every possible deficiency.

As a guarantee against risk, no fee expected until the case is satisfactorily concluded. In order that the most economical may enjoy the advantages of his superior system, the following moderate scale of charges will be continued:—

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“We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation, and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending.”—*Church and State Gazette.*

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The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

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